The street 16

Three Decisions in U.S. Rankle Allies in Europe

EU Warns U.S. It Risks 'Major' Trade Battle In Banana Feud

By Tom Buerkle onal Herald Tribian

LONDON - The European Union warned the United States on Thursday that it risked "a major trade confrontation" by imposing sanctions on European imports in a dispute over bananas, underscoring a serious escalation in trans-Atlantic trade tensions over the issue.

The depth of European anger over the sanctions was demonstrated in London when the trade min

The United States sees 'important progress' in China's drive to join the WTO. Page 11

ister of Britain, normally a close ally of Washington in trade matters, summoned the U.S. ambassador to

"I deplore the action which the United States has taken," the minister, Stephen Byers, said in a state-ment to Parliament. "It is completely unauthorized by any WTO procedures," he added, referring to the Geneva-based World Trade Organization.

In Brussels, the European trade commissioner, Sir Leon Brittan, also condemned the U.S. move on Wednesday to impose 100 percent tariffs on about \$520 million worth of European imports, ranging from Italian cheese and French handbags to Scottish

"This American action is not the act of a party seeking a rapid settlement," he said, "It risks a major trade confrontation."

The harsh thetoric indicated that the long-running banana dispute might spin out of control, officials said. What most troubles senior trade officials is that the dispute is coming to a point at a time when the United States and Europe are in disagreement over a number of key issues, from trade in hormone-treated beef and genetically modified food to Washingtoo's growing impatience at the lack of moves to stimulate

See TRADE, Page 4



Captain Ashby speaking to reporters Thursday after the jury acquitted him.



Twenty people died in the gondola crash after the U.S. jet severed its cables.

Marine Pilot Acquitted In Italy Ski-Lift Deaths

By Steve Vogel

CAMP LEJEUNE, North Carolina - A military jury cleared a Marine captain on Thursday of involuntary manslanghter and all other charges brought against him for flying his jet over a ski resort and severing cables holding a gondola, plunging 20 people to their deaths in the Italian Alps last year.

After a year of painful recriminations on both sides of the Atlantic and a bitter, three-week long trial, the verdict came with stunning finality, following seven hours of deliberation over two days. "Captain Richard J. Ashby, this court finds you, of all the specifications and charges, oot guilty," said the jury president, Colonel William

A joyous whoop erupted from relatives of

Captain Ashby, sitting directly behind the pilot.
"Praise the Lord," said his mother, Carol Ann Anderson, clinging to the bands of family

One of the Marine prosecotors, Major Stu Cronch, turned to ashen-faced relatives of the victims, who sat with their heads bowed in the small military courtroom after the verdict. "I'm sorry," he said softly.

Captain Ashby, standing at attention as the verdict was read, showed little emotion, but he had a wan smile as be shook hands after the verdict with his attorney, Frank Spinner.

The aviator still faces a separate court-martial on a charge of obstruction of justice. The navigator of the jet, Captain Joseph Schweitzer, is schednled for a court-martial later

See PILOT, Page 4

Execution Angers Germany

Cries of 'Barbarism' Over Gas Chamber Death in U.S.

By Roger Cohen
New York Times Service

BERLIN — Germany voiced outrage Thursday at the execution of a German citizen in a gas chamber in Arizona, accusing the United States of

'barbarism' and flouting international law. Walter LaGrand, 37, was put to death Wednesday in a cloud of cyanide gas for his role in the 1982 murder of a bank manager. The potent symbolism in Germany of killing in gas chambers fueled the ootcry here, with members of Parliament calling for sanctions against the United States and radio stations flooded with indignant

That Mr. LaGrand's brother, Karl, 35, was ex-ecuted last week in Arizona for his role in the same crime added to what Karsten Voigt, a senior Foreign Ministry official working on German-Amer-ican relations, called "a sharp sense of divergent moral standards that we find deeply worrying,"

Walter and Karl LaGrand were born in Augsburg, southern Germany, but moved to Arizona as young children after their mother married an American soldier she had met in Germany

The LaGrands were convicted in 1982 of stahhing Walter Hartsock to death in a botched bank robbery attempt. They also stabbed a clerk, Dawn Lopez, six times, but she survived.

Both brothers chose the gas chamber in the hope that courts would find the method unconstitutional. But when this tactic failed, Karl LaGrand accepted a last-minute offer of a lethal injectioo on Feh. 24. He was the first German citizen executed in the United States since World

Walter LaGrand, however, opted for the more drawn-out method with its charged postwar res-onance in Germany. He was put to death in the gas chamber at 9:12 P.M. Wednesday.

See DEATH, Page 3

Euro 1.0813 - 1.0883 Pound 1.6106 123.335 121.815 1.809 6.0669 1,246.66 + 1.54% ... Page 9. Pages 6-7. Pages 18-19. Pages 10,18.

Albright Takes Some Heat AGENDA For Rambouillet 'Success'

By Joseph Fitchett

PARIS - Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's personal efforts staved off failure at least temporarily in the Kosovo peace talks last month at Rambouillet, France, but her intensive, often improvised, diplomacy raised concerns that her entry into the talks clouded the prospects for settling the civil war between Serbs and ethnic Albanians when the two sides reconvene on March 15, according to officials in Europe and the United States.

"Her energy was impressive, but her performance injected new uncertainties into the situation and sowed doubts about the seriousness of U.S. diplomacy," said an American ambassador in Europe.

Like other diplomatic practitioners, he considered her Rambouillet performance to fit a pattern of what he said was the Clinton administration's pro-

pensity for downgrading U.S. objectives in a foreign-policy crisis and set-tling for any result offering the appearance of success or at least forestalling a media verdict of failure.

Robert Zoellick, a conservative U.S. NEWS Albright "seemed to concentrate so hard oo tactics that she lost sight of U.S. strategic goals, and even her tactics seemed imperfectly adapted."

Now head of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washing.

and International Studies in Washington, Mr. Zoellick was a key Bush administration negotiator on German reunification. But similar concerns were voiced by Mrs. Albright's fellow Democrats and working colleagues, who asked not to be identified.

In a general reproach, Mrs. Albright was criticized for emphasizing threats of NATO bombing at the very moment

See ALBRIGHT, Page 4



BLACKMUN DEAD -- Harry Blackmun, the retired U.S. Supreme Court justice who wrote Roe V: Wade, has died. Page 3.

Yeltsin Demands Ouster of Tycoon

MOSCOW (WP) — President Boris Yeltsin, stepping into the fray from his hospital bed Thursday, in effect fired the politically ambi-tions business tycoon Boris Berezovsky from his post as executive secretary of the Commoowealth of Independent States.

For several weeks, Mr. Berezovsky has been loudly criticizing the government of Prime Minister Yevgeni Primakov.
The Kremlin said in a brief statement that Mr. Yeltsin had asked the

other heads of commonwealth states to agree to dismiss Mr. Berezovsky "for exceeding his powers and fail-ing to carry out orders."

Yugoslavia Defends **Buildup on Border**

PRISTINA, Serbia (Reuters) -The Yngoslav government said Thursday that it had decided to strengthen parts of its border to stop 'infiltration' into Kosovo.

Yugoslavia said its troops were on the border to prevent what they call attempts by ethnic Albanian guerrillas to create a corridor to bring weapons and equipment into Kosovo. Armored vehicles were reported heading west on Thursday toward the Albania border.

War's cover for murder, Page 5.

Bonn's Push for Tax Cuts Riles German Business

Dispute Widens Rift With Socialist Government

By John Schmid nternational Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — The German government pashed its tax-reform plan through the lower chamber of Parliament on Thursday, overriding a storm of protests by industry leaders who threatened to transfer jobs ont of Ger-

The plan would lower individual income taxes by 2002 and make up the lost revenue by shifting more of the tax burden to industry.

Before the final vote, several of Germany's biggest companies, such as the insurance giant Allianz AG and energy group RWE AG, warned that they would shift operations outside the country. Insurers, who manage powerful portfolios, even vowed this week to boycott buying government bonds.

The corporate revolt that accompan-

ied the vote on the tax plan stems from companies' belief that it will shift a disproportionately large tax burden onto them just as Europe's pivotal economy is weakening, exports are falling and unions are successfully winning higher-than-expected wage increases.

Unmoved by the fray, Finance Min-ister Oskar Lafontaine, who drafted the tax plan, argued that it corrected injustices in the complicated German tax

code. Shifting blame for the current tax imbalances to the previous conservative government, the finance minister told lawmakers that "the wrong track that

tax policies have been on for years is now being corrected." Separately, the European Central Bank met Thursday in Frankfurt amid public pressure from Germany's government to ease interest rates and bolster the anemic economy. The ECB, the central bank for the 11 countries of the euro, left its interest rates unchanged, bnt some analysts detected a new tone of concern in the remarks of the bank's

president, Wim Duisenberg. (Page 12)
In Germany, the tax debate widens an already acrimonious rift between Bonn's left-leaning administration, which took office in October, and a basiness community that is disillusioned by the direction and pace of economic and welfare change. For Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, who styles himself as a business-friendly pragmatist who values consensus-hnilding with labor and industry, the tax bill undermines his efforts to coax industry into a joint attack on near-record high unemployment.

There has never been anything like it," the daily Bild newspaper wrote this

See GERMANY, Page 13

Bank Reform Issue Hobbles Indonesia

Vital First Step to Economic Health Stalled in Controversy and Suspicion

By Mark Landler New York Times Service

JAKARTA - As riots rage in one of its provinces and with a bruising election just four months away, nobody suggests that it will be easy to nurse the economically ruined country of Indonesia back to health.

But Indonesia's efforts to overhaul its banking system have discouraged even the most hardened realists, who say the convoluted events of the past week are an example of why Indonesia will take

so long to heal. On Saturday, the government was supposed to announce a landmark step in the rehabilitation of its shattered banks — shutting down 38 and rescuing

	Newsstand Prices
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dozens of others with fresh capital. But the next \$1 billion of its \$43 billion at the last minnte, President B.J. rescue package for Indonesia. Habibie put off the announcement for two weeks.

The timing of that announcement caught even the finance minister and the ceotral bank governor by surprise. It has unleashed a storm of criticism that Mr. Habibie is catering to politically connected bankers, who lobbied for the delay because their banks were likely to

be closed down. Nearly 10 months after an impleding economy and violent social unrest toppled President Suharto, people here

Albright presses for a trial of Khmer Rouge leaders. Page 5.

say Suharto-style cronyism is now stalling the recovery of the world's fourth most populous nation.
"With the fall of Subarto, you might

have expected that Suharto-isms would be reduced," said Rizal Ramli, a leading economist. "But it hasn't worked out that way. The game is the same; only the players have changed."

Now, Jakarta must persuade the skep-ties it is still committed to reform. The government's explanation for the delay was flatly rejected by the deputy chair-man of the Indonesian Bank Restructuring Agency. It elicited clucks of disapproval from the International Monetary Fund, which is holding back

rescue package for Indonesia.

A spokesman for the IMF said the government had shown a 'lack of clarity" in reporting on its overhaul of the banks. "This is certainly something we

said the spokesman, Vasuki Shastry.
Indonesian officials deny that political favoritism played a part in the delay.
The governor of Indonesia's central bank, Syahril Sabirin, said in an interview that some of the banks did not have enough time to submit business

thought would be worked out by now,

plans to the government. He said it would have been unfair to close down those banks without giving

them a chance to raise capital. All the same, Mr. Subirin said he understood why outsiders might be suspicions of the government's motives:
"Of course, I think I understand that very well because, for one thing, it is kind of unfortunate that one of the concerned parties in this process is a member of the president's resilience coun-

Mr. Sabirin was referring to Ahurizal Bakrie, a prominent banker who sits oo an economic recovery council chaired

by Mr. Habibie. Mr. Bakrie did not deny that he lobbied on behalf of his bank, PT Bank Nusa Nasional, which analysts said was slated to be shut down in the Saturday

See INDONESIA, Page 4

Troubled Clinton Loyalists Put Aside Their Doubts

By John F. Harris Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinton has once again implored leaders in both parties to turn their sights on the future, even as millions of Americans were focused anew on the lurid details of the president's past.

Yet Mr. Clinton, who survived a tawdry year with his gift for "compart-mentalizing" scandal, has apparently succeeded in remaking the capital in his own image.

While the aftershocks of the impeachment drama continue to rumble almost daily — from new allegations against him of sexual assault to the nationally televised interview with Monica Lewinsky on Wednesday night — there is scant evidence that these are affecting Mr. Clintoo's ability to seize control of Washington's policy agenda, according to lawmakers, administration officials and political analysts.

Instead, many of the other critical actors in this debate have made it plain in recent days that they are following the president's lead in keeping controversy about private behavior walled off from public business. This new group of compartmentalizers includes Republicans

NEWS wanted Mr. Clinton out of ANALYSIS office as well as senior members of his own administration, some of whom say they are deeply troubled by the latest questions about the president but have chosen to put misgivings aside.

Three weeks after he won acquittal in

his impeachment trial, Mr. Clinton is governing in a paradoxical political climate. He is surrounded by people who view him suspiciously, yet he remains by far the dominant actor on Washington's stage.

Mr. Clinton, according to several

See CLINTON, Page 3

Italy's Reform-Minded Leader Doesn't Waste Time on Charm

By Alessandra Stanley New York Times Service

OME - On his first vacation as Italy's prime minister, Massimo D'Alema took his family on a private visit to New York over Christmas.

His children wanted to see the Broadway musical "Cats" and the toy store FAO Schwarz. Mr. D'Alema, a former Communist, wanted to see what the world's leading superpower has to offer, so he also went to eat at the TriBeCa Grill, the trendy downtown restaurant.

It was nothing special," he said with a shrug, He then explained that there are only three cuisines in the world: French, Italian and Chinese. Italy, he said, was most important because it had given civilization its first real "proletarian dish," pizza. Pressed, Mr. D'Alema conceded that he bad eaten well at one place in New York, Asia de Cuba, a Cuban-Chinese restaurant in midtown Manhattan.

Mr. D'Alema, who will turn 50 in April, became the first former Communist to lead a Western European government in October, and he underlines the word "former." But even in small talk he retains a trace of 1970s leftist

Fiercely intelligent, confident and direct, the prime minister is also quite free of easy charm. As he himself recently confessed to a television talk show bost, "As a child, I was antipatico," using an Italian word that means displeasing.

Like Socialist leaders now in power in Ger-many, France and England, Mr. D'Alema has distanced himself from the most ideological extremes of his party and recast himself as a moderate. So far, his economic and foreign policies have mirrored those of his predecessor,

Romano Prodi, a centrist. Mostly, Mr. D'Alema differs from the affable Mr. Prodi in background and personality. Mr. D'Alema's churlish assessment of American cuisine, delivered during an informal chat with foreign journalists in January, may have also been colored by his mood at that moment. At the time, the Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan

was in Italy and seeking political asylum there. Mr. D'Alema was under intense pressure from Turkey and the United States to turn him over for trial in Turkey. The Ocalan affair was his first real foreign policy test as prime minister, and also his first taste of how the United States can squeeze an ally.

on the grounds that Italian law forbids the extradition of prisoners to countries with death penalties. The United Stares reacted harshly at first, then backed off publicly and switched in nagging private diplomacy. Turkey threatened economic boycotts and worse.

Mr. D'Alema, who is sympathetic to the Kurdish cause, initially suggested Italy might grant Mr. Ocalan political asylum. The United States, Turkey and his many political opponents at home hludgeoned him for it, and Mr. D' Alema

began searching for other solutions.
Germany, which feared a blowup within its large Turkish and Kurdish minorities, refused to take him, even though Germany had outstanding warrants for his arrest. Hopes for an international trial dried np under Turkey's opposition. Italy finally asked Mr. Ocalan to leave in mid-January, and he ended up under Greek protection in Kenya. Turkish commandos captured him there, and he is now in a Turkish prison awaiting trial.

Mr. D'Alema, who sought a principled approach but eventually had to bow to realpolitik, views the episode as a learning experience — but for the United States and Europe, not for him-

"If we defend the rights of the Albanians in Kosovo, and rightly so, then I think we have to also defend the rights of the Kurdish minority. he said in an interview in bis office last week. He said be would raise the issue of Kurdish rights with President Bill Clinton at their first official meeting, in Washington on Friday. "We cannot split np Turkey, but there are other national issues there which must be addressed by the West, by the United States and Europe together," he said.

ut foreign policy is not the most urgent problem on the prime minister's agenda. Mr. D'Alema, who came into office pledging to reduce Italy's unemploy-ment rate, which in some areas of the south is

about 23 percent, is facing many hurdles.

Italy's economy in 1998 showed the slowest growth rate in Europe: 1.4 percent instead of the 5 percent goal the Prodi government set when Italy agreed to adopt the new European currency,

·Mr. D'Alema has made it his mission to reform the chaotic and chronically unstable Italian electoral system and create a two-party system. He faces opposition from the conservative right wing, and even his allies are not exactly on board.



Prime Minister D'Alema, a former Communist, was criticized by domestic opponents and international allies for refusing to extradite Abdullah Ocalan.

This month, Mr. Prodi created his own center-left party, which is likely to further splinter the left. Mr. D'Alema is the first Italian prime minister to hold weekly news conferences. Yet his relationship with the Italian press is not exactly cozy. One of his closest aides, Fabrizio Rondolino, his media adviser, was forced to resign last month after steamy accounts surfaced of Mr. Rondolino's newly published erotic novel.

Mr. D'Alema accepted his resignation but also attacked the "valgarity" of the Italian media. Italian newspaper columnists paint Mr. D'Alema as arrogant and remote, but they have also attacked him for recent appearances on popular television shows intended to warm up his image. Mr. D'Alema says the media assaults are the mouth of his mediation.

result of his unstituting honesty. "Perhaps mis-takenly, I have always said what I thought," he explained.

Bnt Mr. D'Alema is also heavily scrutinized for his Communist past, His parents were Communists, and his father was a high-ranking party official. As a child, Mr. D'Alema was sent to Soviet summer camp at Artek, the Soviet Union's most prestigious international "pioneer"

He mostly spoke French to fellow campers, he

recalled. "At the time, it was the international language of choice." (Mr. D'Alema now studies English during his lunch breaks, in an effort to improve his communication skills at NATO meetings and summit sessions of the Group of Seven leading industrial nations).

He was the head of the Young Communist League in the 1970s, and edited L'Unita, the Communist Party newspaper, from 1988 to 1990. In 1991, against the backdrop of the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Italian Communists splintered, and Mr. D'Alema left to form a non-Marxist party, the Democrat Party of the Left.

Mr. D'Alema, whose trip will be his fourth to the United States, said he is not anti-American, but he acknowledged that he sees the United States through the eyes of a leftist European intellectual.

And that includes a dim view of American popular culture.

But he admits being surprised by the success in America of the Italian movie "Life Is Beautiful," about the Holocaust,

"I never would have imagined it," he said. 'It improved my image of the United States, the fact that this film could be successful there, because it is a film that forces one to think."

15 Killers Die In Ambush, **Uganda Says**

BUHOMA, Uganda - Fifteen of the Hutu rebels who murdered eight tourists in Uganda have been killed in a Rwandan Army ambush, a Ugandan officer said Thursday.
Lieutenant Colonel Benon Biraro said

the troops caught the Hutu maranders in an ambusb after Ugandans pursued them across the border into the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The officer said that the troops had set up an ambush on the road between Goma and Kisoro in eastern Congo after being

The Rwandan Army killed 15 of them and suffered three casualties." Colonel Biraro said.

The ethnic Hutu rebels, who are fighting Rwanda's Tutsi-led government, abducted 31 foreign tourists from the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park at dawn Monday. They took 14 of their captives on a long

trek through the jungle toward Congo and later massacred eight of them with clubs, axes and machetes. The remaining six were released with a message warning the United States and Britain to stop supporting the government of Rwanda.

A team of experts from the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation was in Kampala on Thursday investigating the massacre. Two Americans among those killed in the campground in the Bwindi park, where they had gone to view rare mountain gorillas.

Four Britons and two New Zealanders also were killed.

The president of Uganda, Yoweri Museveni, promised to bunt down the rebels and he appealed for international aid to track them down.

The rebels were among Hutu fighters who fled Rwanda in 1994 after killing more than 500,000 minority Tutsis and politically moderate Hutus in a government-orchestrated genocide.

A British survivor of the massacre,

Mark Avis, 27, returned to Britain early Thursday with his New Zealander wife. Rhonda, also 27.

The Foreign Office was considering whether a team of police officers should be sent to Uganda to help track down the (Reuters, AP, AFP)

King Abdullah Turns to Moderate

his first major executive step on Thursday since succeeding King Hussein, dismissing his prime min-ister and replacing him with a veteran moderate politician.

The new cabinet rids the government of many who were loyal to Prince Hassan, the brother of King Hussein who was once expected to ascend to the throne.

and to head a 23-member cabinet. and Palestinians.

He also named former Prime Mr. Rawabdeh, 60, replaces Minister Abdul-Karim Kabariti, Prime Minister Fayez Tarawneh, whose 1996-97 government carried whose Cabinet worked most of its out tough economic changes and six-month tenure under Prince Has-

royal court.
Mr. Rawabdeh and his new cabinet, including three deputy prime ministers, took the oath of office in front of King Abdullah at the royal

turning around three years of eco-King Abdullah asked Abdul- from its 1994 peace treaty with Is-Raouf Rawabdeh, a member of Par-liament and former deputy prime minister, to become prime minister stalled peace talks between Israelis

Mr. Rawabdeh, 60, replaces

"Don't worry, I've got him covered!"

AMMAN — King Abdullah took former ally, as chief of Jordan's Hussein was receiving cancer treatment in the United States. King Hussein, who died Feb. 7,

deposed Hassan as crown prince on Jan. 25, accusing him of power grabbing and naming Prince Abdullah, his eldest son, as the suc-They face a challenging task of cessor to the throne.

Mr. Rawabdeh, a Hussein loynomic slowdown and steering alist, is, however, known to main-Jordan, which has seen little benefit tain good relations with Prince Has-

> The choice of Mr. Rawabdeh, as a supporter of Jordan's treaty with Israel and warm ties with the United States and Gulf Arabs, is another sign of King Abdullah's desire to

likely to play an influential role in ented agenda.



Abdul-Raouf Rawabdeh, who backed King Hussein's views.

foreign policy, while Mr. Rawab-deh, whose ministerial posts stretch continue his father's policies. clusively domestic portfolios, Officials said Mr. Kabariti was would follow a more Jordan-ori-

back to 1976 hut have been ex-

British Balloon Circumvents China

LONDON — Two British balloonists attempting to circle the world nonstop successfully bypassed banned Chinese air- from the team's London support center. space on Thursday in one of the most difficult maneuvers of their journey.

Andy Elson and Colin Prescot passed within 50 kilometers (30 miles) of Hainan Dao island in the South China Sea and were continuing along the Chinese coast toward Taiwan.

China banned the British halloon from crossing its territory after the tycoon Richard Branson and the American adventurer Sieve Fossett drifted into a banned zone of its airspace in December and did not land

when ordered to do so. Mr. Elson and Mr. Prescot had been flying low and slowly toward China to trand Piccard of Switzerland and Brian avoid entering its airspace.

The navigation around China was one of the most challenging aspects of the jour-ney, the flight director, Ian Ashpole, said Mr. Ashpole said the balloon was on

schedule to catch the jetstream in the next 48 hours which will take it over the Pacific Ocean to Canada. Elson, 45, and Prescot, 48, weathered their bumpiest ride Wednesday since tak-

ing off from Spain two weeks ago as thunderstorms shook their capsule over A Swiss-registered competitor balloon, which took off from Switzerland on Mon-

day, will be allowed to fly over China. A spokeswoman for the Breitling Orhiter-3 said the balloon, piloted by Ber-Jones of Britain, was now above Mali.

Northwest Faces Fine for Stunt Involving 747

The Associated Press MINNEAPOLIS - The Federal Aviation Administration is seeking a \$33,000 fine against Northwest Airlines Corp. for arranging to have a B-24 bomber fly in formation with i lumbo let to honor

retiring pilot. The agency said the maneuver last July with a 747 jet carrying 373 passengers was dangerous, careless and illeg-

The flight ended safely, but aviation regulations prohibit formation flying involving any aircraft carrying paying passen-

In addition to the fine against the airline, the agency has pro-posed a \$1,000 penalty against the Northwest dispatcher who

organized the event.

The aviation body also has proposed 90-day flying suspensions for the pilots who flew both aircraft.

Tony Molinaro, a spokesman for the agency, said the punitive actions were pending in order to give Northwest and the individuals involved time to

'We certainly agreed that the incident was serious and we took steps to ensure that it wouldn't happen again," Jon Austin, a spokesman for North-west, said Wednesday.

TRAVEL UPDATE

U.S. Fines Delta and Northwest

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government has fined North-west Airlines and Delta Air Lines for failing to tell passengers that tickets they were huying actually would be fulfilled with service on another airline's planes.

Under so-called code-share arrangements, partner airlines can market another carrier's flights as their own. But the airlines must tell passengers at the earliest opportunity that

they will be traveling on another carrier. Transportation Department investigators called reserva-tions agents for both Delta and Northwest and found that in a happening. On Wednesday, Northwest was fined \$45,000, half of which will be forgiven if it does not commit additional violations in the next year. Delta was penalized \$25,000.

Finnish Controllers Extend Strike

HELSINKI (AFP) - Political and business leaders stepped up pressure Thursday on Finland's air traffic controllers to end a crippling strike that is costing millions of dollars a week and

causing problems for industry. Business leaders and opposition parties called on Prime Minister Paavo Lipponen to intervene after strikers rejected the latest pay offer. The strike is now in its fifth week.

The strikers are demanding pay increases of between 25 and 30 percent over four years, which they say would bring them into line with salaries elsewhere in Europe. The action has paralyzed all but 20 percent of domestic flights and disrupted around 10 percent of international services using the Helsinki

KLM Inspects Its 747s for Defect

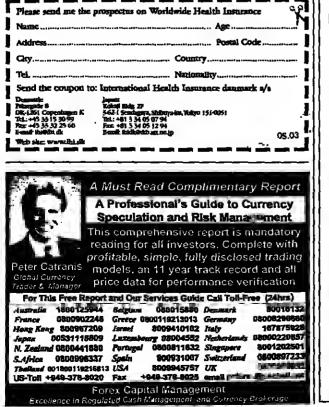
AMSTERDAM (AP) — KLM, the Dutch airline, carried out special inspections on its fleet of 32 Boeing 747-200 jets after discovering a defect in a plane belonging to its Martinair

subsidiary, a spokesman said Thursday. "Boeing is starting an investigation and has warned all its customers, asking them to inspect their planes," said that Martinair spokesman, Udo Bnys.

The defect, a 7-centimeter (2.8-inch) tear, was discovered

Saturday in a brace that strengthens the fixture attaching the engine to the wing, said Hugo Baas, a KLM spokesman. Martinair described it as a "minor problem."

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

WEATHER North America

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THE AMERICAS

With Book and TV Interview, Lewinsky Gets a Chance to Show Her Rage

By Amy Goldstein and David Streitfeld Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON - Monica Lewinhas mostly swirled around her for the last to sow that she relied on two kinds of television interview and the publication plated suicide. of a bitter biography that lashes out at the independent counsel Kenneth Starr, FBI

president she loved. who trammeled her privacy and emo-raped.

Continued from Page 1

people who have spoken with him in

survival in the impeachment ordeal is not

going to produce anything like a clean break in stories about his conduct.

He has complained how the "unwel-

that news organizations and some con-

prevent a return to a state of normalcy.

But the president's pessimism about the motives of his adversaries is in-

terwoven with optimism: He apparently

believes that Republicans, who are di-

vided on issues and unpopular with

voters in the wake of the impeachment

trial, have no choice but to work with "Yes, there are hard feelings, but at

t servative opponents are determined to

CLINTON: Still the Main Man in Capital

come vapor trail" following him in re- Warning about the risks of "excessive

cent days, as one aide described it, shows partisanship," be boasted that Demo-

recent days, is by turns angry and accepting of this paradox, aware that his centive to work together."

The president set down is

tional well-being to promote their own

sky has stepped into the limelight that shattered by the scandal that she helped year with the airing of a long-awaited anti-depressants and repeatedly contem-

The account is the first time Ms. Lewinsky has voiced her rage at Mr. Starr. agents, her own lawyer and even the She decries the prosecutor's "squeeze Her book, which already shows signs of becoming an immediate best-seller, portrays Ms. Lewinsky as a victim of political enemies and faithless allies who trammeled her privacy and emo-

the end of the day people are nothing else if not pragmatic, a senior White House official said. "Politics works by self-

interest, and that means there is an in-

The president set down his terms for

working together Wednesday at a rally-

style event with House and Senate

Democrats at the Library of Congress.

crats were more unified than ever on

issues and challenged Republicans to

join him in passing new national stan-dards for education, devoting nearly

two-thirds of the federal budget surplus

to Social Security and agreeing that pre-

serving Medicare requires a large new

"I think they want to get some things done, and the president is banking on it," said Donna Shalala, the secretary of

health and human services, in a reference

to the Republicans. She added that she

had been struck in recent days by how

"cordial" and "professional" once-combative Republicans had been toward

her at appropriations hearings.
But even as Republicans must look

past scandal toward policy, Ms. Shalala acknowledged that she was putting aside

her own concerns about Mr. Clinton's

Asked about Juanita Broaddrick's re-

cent allegations that Mr. Clinton assaul-

ted her 21 years ago in an Arkansas hotel room, Ms. Shalala said she had reached

no conclusion about whether she be-

lieved Mrs. Broaddrick or the terse deni-

al issued by Mr. Clinton's lawyer - and

she said she did not need to in order to do

her job.

"I take all of this very seriously," Ms.
Shalala said of Mrs. Broaddrick's allegations, adding that "I do oot compartmentalize" by making separate judgments about personal conduct and

ton's behalf without knowing what to

agencies, Ms. Shalala was the only one

for him. Given assurances of anonymity,

many people who serve the president said

they long ago had reconciled themselves

to the fact that there were parts of their

leader's private life about which they

One veteran aide likened working for

"Bill Clinton has got a problem," this

Mr. Clinton to being a Catholic who

supports abortion rights: One simply tol-

official said. "If he weren't president, he

would be in counseling."

Of the recent Broaddrick allegation, another senior official said, "I think you

have to be troubled by it. She seems very credible." On the other hand, this of-

ficial, who has worked both in the White

House and in a senior position at an outside agency, added: The question is: What do you do with it? And why

Many other aides in recent days said they had found Mrs. Broaddrick's al-

legations of forcible sexual assault im-plausible. Her story is far different, Clin-

ton loyalists note, from the story of Paula Jones, who said Mr. Clinton did not

force the issue when she turned down a

suggesting that Mr. Clinton had fathered an illegitimate child with a prostitute.

That story turned out to be false, ac-

cording to the tabloid newspaper that first raised the issue. The lesson, these

Clinton loyalists say, is that even if they cannot fully trust the president's denials,

they know that many of the most sen-

sational allegations about him fall flat.

"You have to live with some un-

certainty," one of them said. "You just

ignore it and do your job."

Some aides pointed to recent rumors

crnde sexual advance.

now? Why did she wait 20 years?"

believe about his past.

could never be certain.

crates contradictions.

infusion of federal money.

behavior.

against several important figures in her facts. 'Monica's Story' depicts the former life, including her friend-turned-betray-White House intern as a bright, com- er, Linda Tripp; a former amorney, Wilmately, President Bill Clinton.

ica were people she knew, trusted and central figure in the drama that nearly loved," wrote Andrew Morton, whom cost Mr. Clinton his job, even though her Ms. Lewinsky selected to tell her story image has become an icon around the

affair, the prosecutor's investigation and impeachment trial and several converthe impeachment and trial in Congress, sations that Mrs. Tripp, unbeknownst to the book offers the perspective of Ms. Ms. Lewinsky, taped.

She also delivers scalding broadsides Lewinsky berself and several fresh

Remarkably, the book and a two-hour television interview Wednesday night hiam Ginsburg, a high school teacher with Barbara Walters mark the first time who became her first lover, and ultiframed the episodes of the last year in The people who had betrayed Mon- her own terms. Even though she was a outlets. because of his sympathetic biography of globe, Ms. Lewinsky herself has been biana, Princess of Wales. For a nation already super-saturated her grand jury testimony last summer, with details of the 18-month presidential

much more — through various media licly to and what she may discuss.

first media interview on Wednesday, ABC News said, making it the mostwatched U.S. news broadcast ever, sick." Agence France-Presse reported from Washington.]

Of the many forums in which Ms. Lewinsky is now spreading her point of view, "Monica's Story" is the most

Wednesday amounted to opening day unfettered account. Unlike her inter-of a choreographed Monica hlitz, in views with television and print jourwhich the 25-year-old woman, who has nalists, the book is not controlled by her been unemployed for more than a year, immunity agreement with Mr. Starr, is beginning to remold her image and be which gives the prosecutor substantial paid at least \$3 million — and possibly control over whom she may speak pub-

In the two-hour episode of Ms. Wal-[About 70 million Americans ter's interview on ABC, Ms. Lewinsky watched some or all of Ms. Lewinsky's said that, while she still has warm feelings for Mr. Clinton, "sometimes I hate his guts, and, um, he makes me

She said she was on medication oow and had "a lot of healing to do."

Asked by Ms. Walters how she felt after the president's apology to the nation on Aug. 17, which did not mention her, Ms. Lewinsky said: "I felt like a piece of trash. I felt dirty and I felt used and I was disappointed."

As for the president, she said, "When

I think of the person that I thought was Bill Clinton, I think he had genuine remorse. When I think of the person that now see is 100 percent politician, 1 think be's sorry he got caught."

The book contains invective against the independent counsel and his staff that is absent from the Walters interview. It brands one of Mr. Starr's top deputies as "a pit-bull terrier" who was more used to tough mobsters than to a

sobbing young woman."

Criticizing Mr. Starr's "strong-arm tactics," the book raises questions about whether the independent counsel had improper contacts with attorneys working on the Paula Jones law suit, an issue that the Justice Department is scruti-

In other passages of the book, Ms. Lewinsky says that she felt hurt and betrayed by Mr. Clinton, particularly in January 1998, when he stood before a thicket of television cameras, wagged a finger and vowed that he had never 'had sex with that woman."

At the White House, a spokesman, Barry Toiv, said that Mr. Clinton did not plan to watch the interview and that he was unsure whether the president knew that the book had been poblish-

The book also paints a damning portrait of Mr. Ginsburg, the old friend of Ms. Lewinsky's father who was her main lawyer for several months last

Calling him "an enemy within," it says that the attorney's "inappropriate and often sexual comments added to her private pain and public humiliation." It also contends that he was more coocerned with making media appearances

than with advocating for his client.
Reached in Los Angeles, Mr. Ginsburg said: "Monica seems to need to blame someone for the activities of the last several years. She cannot hlame her parents, because they're part of her support system. She can't hlame herself. because that's oot human.

"So I guess I'm one of the people she would like to hlame, and I guess I have big enough shoulders to carry that

Kunning inroom peated decision of Mrs. Tripp. The book's opening pages said Mrs. Tripp, who befriended Ms. Lewinsky while both worked at the Pentagon, had a "nasal New Jersey drawl" and "lumpy

While portraying herself as unwitting victim, Ms. Lewinsky also is deeply selfcritical and, at times, rips away whatever shards of privacy she had left. Although it has been known previously that she dated an older Pentagon colleague, she discloses that she learned she was pregnant and had an abortion after the three-

month relationship.

The book paints an image of the affeccionate yet adolescent nature of her affair with the president. She says that Mr. Clinton called her "Kiddo" when she passed him on occasion in the eorridors of the White House and that she reciprocated, addressing him as "Pres-

About 50 demonstrators in New Jersey taunting Mr. Clinton outside a \$1,000-a-ticket fund-raising dinner for Senator Robert Torricelli, a Democrat and a supporter of the president during the impeachment hearings.

POLITICAL

Mrs. Clinton Gives UN Talk on Women

NEW YORK - On her testingthe-waters tour of New York City, Hillary Rodham Clinton said Thursday at the United Nations -- one of the destinations suggested for her future — that women now enjoy "all kinds of possibilities where none had been dreamed of be-

In the noisy UN Trusteeship Council, where 1,000 filled the seats and hundreds more stood against the walls, the chamber erupted into a whooping, standing ovation as she stepped across the threshold.

"I think the revolution is on the move." Secretary-General Kofi Annan quipped with a nod to "Madame Clinton," scated at the center of a dais lined with seven women.

Mrs. Clinton led the chamber in applanding Mr. Annan's comment that women are not "an incidental ornament for the men."

\$1 Billion a Year Proposed for Parks

WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinton proposed Thursday devoting \$1 billion a year to pre-serving urban parks, wildlife areas and other "natural treasures," the

White House said. Mr. Clinton, who was to highlight the proposal at a 150th anniversary celebration of the U.S. Interior Department, aims to make permanent a one-year plan in his 2000 hudget request, the White House said in a statement.

The proposal would allocate \$1 billion a year to land conservation aims, representing a 125 percent increase over current levels.

About half would go to support state and local efforts, with the rest for federal projects.

Witness Smuggles Anthrax to Hearing

WASHINGTON - A leading U.S. expert on biological warfare walked through security at the Rayburn House Office Building carrying 7.5 grams of powdered anthrax in a small plastic bottle, proceeding directly to a hearing before the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and displaying his deadly sample.
The expert, William Patrick 3d,

said he was trying to show how a hostile state could smuggle powdered anthrax into the United States in a secure diplomatic pouch and attack major federal government installations almost at will.

"I've been through all the major airports, and the security systems of the State Department, the Pentagon, even the CIA, and nobody has stopped me," Mr. Patrick said. "Seven and a half grams would take care of the Rayburn Building and all the people in it."

Quote/Unquote

Tom Daschie of South Dakota, the Senate minority leader, saying said that a Republican proposal for a 10 percent tax cut would give people who earn \$\$00,000 an annual tax reduction of \$20,000 while families who earn \$38,000 or less would save 27 cents a day: "We believe America's families deserve better than 27 cents a day. They deserve good schools for their children. If they are sick, they deserve whatever treatment their doctor says they need."

Harry Blackmun, Ex-Justice, Dies at 90

By Linda Greenhouse New York Three Service

public performance. At the same time, Ms. Shalala said, "I'm both a patriot and a professional. I serve the nation and the president." This allows her to pursue what she considers important issues oo Mr. Clindecision that legalized abortion in the the court found constitutional protection overturn Roe v. Wade, but indicated that United States and set off one of the most for "a right of personal privacy" that is the framework of the 1973 decision oo explosive political debates in the United "broad enough to encompass a womlonger commanded a majority. In a sampling of administration of explosive political deba ficials, both in the White House and in States, died Thursday.

Justice Blackmun died at Arlington willing to be quoted by name. But other Hospital in suburban Arlington, Virginia, from complications following hip-replacement surgery on Feb. 24. He had interviews underscored the degree to which the scandal over his affair with Ms. Lewinsky had undercut Mr. Clinton's fallen at home the day before and broken credibility even with people who work

highest court after being appointed by against abortion that in 1973 were still President Richard Nixon in 1970. He retained by most states. retired in 1994.

When Justice Blackman took his seat on the Supreme Court, few people would have predicted that this soft-spoken, 61year-old judge, a lifelong Republican never known for breaking new ground or never known for breaking new ground or challenging the status quo, was about to sands of letters. "Think of any name," embark on an extraordinary personal he said in a 1983 interview. "I've been journey that by the time he retired would called it in these letters." find him as one of the last remaining

in the country's jodicial, political and of symbol as a grim survivor of what social history as the author of Roe v. looked like a judicial counterrevolution. Wade; which established a constitutional In 1989, the court voted in Webster v.

an's decision whether or oot to terminate her pregnancy."

indication that far from being solely the product of Justice Blackmun's personal vision, the decision reflected a broad consensus on the court that the time had He served 24 years on the nation's come to end the criminal prohibitions

> Nonetheless, it was Justice Blackmun tion. who became the personal symbol of the ingly dominant, and divisive, role in sential holding" of Roe v. Wade. American politics. Abortion opponents

Toward the end of his career on the liberal voices on a transformed court.

Not even three years into his tenure,

Justice Blackman guaranteed his place

Court, as the majority in favor of a con
Stitutional right to abortion dwindled,

Justice Blackman became another kind

But in a separate opinion be wro

"Just when many expected the darked
to fall, the flame has grown bright."

WASHINGTON — Harry Blackmun, 90, the retired Supreme Court
in that opinion, on which Justice
justice who was the author of the 1973
Blackmun labored for more than a year,
abortion. Reproductive Health Services to uphold
a Missouri law that restricted access to
justice who was the author of the 1973
Blackmun labored for more than a year,

Justice Blackman, then 80 years old, er pregnancy." read his dissenting opinion in a tense and his dissenting opinion in a tense and hushed courtroom. "I fear for the future," he said. "The signs are evident and very ominous, and a chill wind

hlows.' In a 1992 decision that took much of the country by surprise, a new majority coalesced to preserve and even to solidify the constitutional right to abor-

The case, Planned Parenthood v. Caabortion issue that assumed an increas- sey reaffirmed what it called the "es-

Justice Blackmun did not agree with all of the opinion. He would have struck down all the regulations in the Pennsylvania law that was before the court, while the plurality opinion upheld

But in a separate opinion he wrote, "Just when many expected the darkness

most of them.

ident Kiddo."

Away From Politics · Two men charged with the

murder of a man whose body was set afire told investigators they killed him because he was a homosexual, police said. The victim of the Feb. 19 killing, Billy Jack Gaither 20. of Sulling, Billy Jack Gaithers er, 39, of Sylacanga, Alabama, was known to both men. (AP)

 The American Red Cross named Steve Bullock as its new president, replacing Elizabeth Dole, who resigned in January to consider a run for the Republican presidential nomination Mr. Bullock, 62, is the group's first black president. (WP)

 A 96-year-old man wbo struck and killed a 15-year-old girl with his car and then fled the scene was sentenced to five years' probation in Santa Monica, California. (AP)

By Linda Greenhouse

New York Times Service

"WASHINGTON - Students with ing the school day are entitled to that care at public expense, the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled, as long as the services can be provided by someone other than a

The 7-to-2 decision issued Wednesday upheld lower court rulings that re-quired an Iowa school district to provide a trained aide to monitor the needs of a to special education, school districts must ing that the boy, Garret Frey, was already quadriplegic boy who was dependent oo

It was a substantial victory for famlies of ehildren with disabilities, who adhered to its view in a 1984 case that as ingful access to the public schools will have become increasingly assertive loog as a student's physical needs can be be assured," Justice John Paul Stevens

who in many cases have met resistance required services do not fall within the from school districts burdened by the excluded "medical services" category. mounting costs of special edocation.

Disabled Students Win Court Ruling

disabilities who require special care dur- the boywould oot have been able to attend whether the school district had that ob-ligation under a federal law, the Indi-viduals with Disabilities Education Act, ysis of each case. which guarantees a "free appropriate public education" to students with dispay for "medical services."

about their rights under federal law and met by someooc who is not a doctor, the said in the majority opinion.

The Cedar Rapids Community School Without someone available at all times, District in Iowa had argued that the question shoold be not whether a doctor school. The question was whether the or someone else provided the services, parents had to pay for the full-time aide or hot rather how complex, continuous and

Although the district argued that the cost would be more than \$20,000 a year, abilities. The law provides that in addition the majority opinion disputed this, notpay for "related services" but need not entitled to an aide who turned pages for him and kept his desk in order.

DEATH: Germany Complains of U.S. Unilateralism in Arizona Execution

Continued from Page 1

Cyanide pellets were dropped into a pan of sulfuric acid and water below his seat in the chamber.

Witnesses said that as the poisonous gas rose, he began coughing and gagged several times. A few minutes later, his head slumped. He coughed again, raised his head a last time, and pitched forward. He was pronounced dead at 9:30 P.M.

"This is barbaric and unworthy of a state based on the rule of law," said Herta Daeubler-Gmelin, the German justice minister. "It is appalling the way the death penalty is celebrated in Arizona and used to help governors and state prosecutors win re-election."

Germany, like all European Union states, has no death penalty: Both Miss Daeubler-Gmelin and Joschka Fischer, the foreign minister, had appealed for clemency, saying the LaGrands Resentment has been rising here against had been denied their rights as German citizens what is sometimes called "American unilat-

because prosecutors did oot inform the German Consulate of their arrest in 1982 until a decade

But Governor Jane Hull of Arizona rejected the appeals, saying the LaGrands had enjoyed the same rights any American citizens would have had.

Arizona officials, however, conceded that the Vienna Convention - under which the LaGrands should have been advised of their right to consular assistance at their trial - had oot been observed.

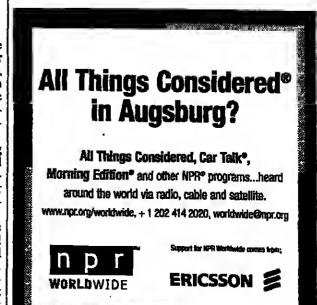
This apparent decision to ignore a cooven-tion of which the United States is a signatory emaged Germans oo Thursday.

"International laws were violated," said Claudia Roth, an environmentalist Green politician, "and that is unacceptable." Miss Roth called in Parliament for international sanctions against the United States.

eralism," and the way the LaGrands were executed added to this sentiment. A similar refrain is beard in France, where a new word, hyperpuissance, or hyperpower, has been coined to portray what the French see as the arrogant American exploitation of an unprecedented combination of political, cultural, military and economic power.

This is another example of America setting its own priorities higher than international law," Mr. Voigt said. "For Germany, international law is the very foundation of our postwar identity, so we find this deeply dis-turbing. It is unilateralism at its worst.

Before his execution, Walter LaGrand's case was heard Wednesday in the International Court of Justice in The Hague. After a special half-hour hearing, the court urged the U.S. government to use "all measures at its disposal" to prevent the execution. But the court has oo enforcement powers and its appeal was



INTERNATIONAL

Nigeria Grants Pardons to 95 Imprisoned by **Ex-Dictator**

Contribed by Our Staff From Dunard

ABUJA, Nigeria - Nigeria's military government granted state pardons on Thursday to 95 political prisoners. including a former deputy junta leader languishing on death row for allegedly planning a coup against the former dictator, General Sani Abacha.

It was the latest in a series of steps to lower the political temperature since the death of General Abacha in June 1998. His successor, General Abdulsalami Abubakar, freed dozens of political de-

tainees in the first weeks after he came to power, and he has embarked on moves to store civil rule.

"All those involved are to be released immediately," Nigeria's No. 2, Admiral Mike Akhigbe, said in the capital, Abuja, after a meeting of the ruling

Some political analysts said the par-dons had been granted in an attempt to calm unrest by anti-government militants, who have rioted and conducted a series of attacks since Monday on police stations and barracks in Lagos. At least 11 people are reported to have been killed in the disorder.

The attacks have been linked to radical youths who espouse separate statehood for the Yoruba people of southwestern Nigeria and who are protesting the elec-tion last weekend of Olusegun Obasanjo, a former military leader, as president.

Late Wednesday, the police increased security around Mr. Obasanjo's farmhouse in Otta, about 100 kilometers (60 miles) north of Lagos, after a police station in Otta was attacked, police officers said on condition of anonymity. One policeman was killed in the attack on Wednesday, the officers said.

Among the prisoners freed Wednesday were senior military officers, including a former deputy junta chief, General Oladipo Diya, who has been on death row since early last year for allegedly plotting to overthrow General Abacha.

A senior military officer, Vice Admiral Okhai Ahigbe, said the pardons had been granted "in the spirit of reconciliation," state radio reported.

Also released were 16 soldiers and

officers jailed since 1995, allegedly for planning a coup against General Abacha, who summarily jailed and sometimes killed his rivals and human rights campaigners.

Many if not all of the alleged coup plots that sent soldiers to prison are widely thought to have been invented by General Abacha as pretexts to imprison his political enemies.

The 95 also included Niran Maloiu, editor of a Lagos newspaper, The Diet; a former minister of works and housing, Major General Abdulkareem Adisa; a Laden, American officials said. But one former state governor, Colonel Lawan bin Laden was waning. (Reuters, AP) Abdul Hakeem Mujahid, a senior



TAPPED OUT -- A bus burning in Bhayander, a town about 50 kilometers north of Bombay, after it was set ablaze hy Indians protesting Thursday against a lack of drinking water there for more than a week.

Taleban Rift With bin Laden Reported

By Tim Weiner New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - The suspected terrorist Osama bin Laden and the Taleban, his protectors in Afghanistan, have had a violent falling-out, raising the pos-sibility that his days of refuge may be numbered, according to senior Amer-

Three American officials and two representatives of the Taleban, which is the armed religious movement that runs Afghanistan, said Wednesday that a fight had broken out three weeks ago in Kandahar among Mr. bin Laden's body.

They have sent an emissary to the second Taleban representative said. guards and a group of Taleban officials assigned to watch over him.

After the fight, the officials said, Mr. bin Laden was expelled from Kandahar, the Afghan city in which he had taken refuge with his family. He was transported to an isolated location in the Afghan countryside and stripped of his satellite telephones, which U.S. officials said allowed him to plot with fellow

radicals throughout the world.
"There is friction between him and the Taleban," a senior U.S. official said.
"They have tried to constrain him for the first time and tried to limit his com-

"It's a good sign," the official said, since it indicates that Mr. bin Laden, the Saudi exile indicted on charges of masterminding the deadly bombings of two American embassies in Africa in August, may have worn out his welcome with the Taleban, which has sheltered him since 1996.

The Taleban previously had shown no sign it was willing to deliver Mr. bin

Taleban official and the group's UN the American officials.

Though mutual mistrust complicates come a problem for his hosts. "His presence is not a benefit to the people of Afghanistan," he said, but "a puzzle for the Afghan leadership" to solve, be-cause the Islamic Taleban cannot be seen

to betray a fellow Muslim. The senior U.S. officials said they were not certain of Mr. bin Laden's current location. Officially, the Taleban say they have no idea about Mr. bin Laden's whereabouts. Privately, they are pondering what to do with him, a

They have sent an emissary to the United States asking how to deal with him without being seen to double-cross him, and they have asked Saudi Arabia if it would take care of his wives and children, said the Taleban representa-

any cooperation, the Taleban's leaders have at least three ways to deal with him that would be acceptable to the United

 They could secretly arrange for members of another nation's intelligence service to learn of his whereabouts. • They could deliver him discreetly to

States, senior American officials said:

a neighboring country, where American law enforcement and intelligence officers could try to apprehend him. • They could keep Mr. bin Laden firmly under control, incommunicado,

in the hope that he might dwindle away as a source of anti-American terror. Some American officials think this last solution the best, since it holds no risk of making Mr. bin Laden a martyr, which could inspire fresh attacks against

ALBRIGHT: Rambouillet Stint Criticized

Continued from Page 1

transformed into a provisional Kosovo government excluding hard-liners hold-ing out for independence. In Belgrade, President Slobodan Milosevic continues resisting the Rambouillet plan for a

NATO peacekeeping force.
When negotiations resume, Mrs. Albright's success could have unintended consequences, officials and analysts said, if European governments' satisfaction that the Serbs and Kosovars were finally talking increases the allies' reluctance to go along with U.S. calls for air strikes to obtain Serbian concessions.

Mrs. Albright's often strident bran-dishing of military threats, which earned her the nickname "Madame Bomber" among her detractors in Paris, left a disturbing impression among European officials that she was trigger-happy or, worse, hustering A British official complained that "she was speaking loudly and carrying a toothpick, not a big

stick, in her handbag."
Instead of intimidating the Yugoslav leader, she "probably increased skep-ticism about the credibility of NATO military action," according to a senior policymaker in Europe.

"If NATO failed to act against Serbian troop build-ups or even after the massacre of civilians in December, why would anyone think that the alliance will steel itself to launch air strikes now that there is at least a semblance of talking going on?" he asked.

Indeed, Rambouillet, intended to make the warring factions accept a settlement, may have had the opposite effect by showing both Serbs and Kosovars that they can alternate talking and fighting and pursue the civil war apparently sought by extremists in both camps, according to Jonathan Eyal, director of studies at the Royal United

Services Institute in London. she was making it more unlikely that air crucial mistake in assuming a separate strikes would be used. For example, she ignored yet another NATO-backed bargaining deadline in prolonging the Rambouillet talks to bring ethnic Albanians back to teable.

The through the stable. scope to exploit divergences between the United States and its allies. In the end, the Rambouillet talks were

In the end, the Rambouillet talks were suspended so the ethnic Albanian negotiators could consult political and guerrilla leaders about the plan for NATO-guaranteed autonomy in Kosovo, and the delegation is now being transformed into a provisional Kosovo government, excluding hard-liners holding out for independence. In Belgrade, Staffed with European troops, not U.S.

This formulation, while masking the fact that U.S. muscle remained the core Will Honason of Western action, had the advantage of reducing the risk of congressional opposition to a U.S. role in Kosovo and thus bolstering NATO's credibility.

In the climactic final hours at Rambouillet, the talks turned into a test of U.S. credibility when Mrs. Albright's European colleagues slipped into the wings while she was in the spotlight trying to woo the ethnic Albanians into reconsidering the peace plan and NATO

security guarantees.

Officially, her claim that bombing remains an option is backed by London and even by Paris, where officials want to avoid a public quarrel with Washington over a theoretical problem that they do not expect to confront in practice. Unless confronted with a black-and-white challenge such as Serbian arrocities against Kosovar civilians, NATO seems unlikely to get approval for air strikes from

European governments.
"Symbolically, they bowed out at Rambouillet, signaling to their electorstandard they can depend on the United States to produce solutions," a NATO official said. Phrasing it more diplomatically, Robert Hunter, the U.S. delegate to NATO during Mr. Clinton's first term, said that Mrs. Albright's threats of NATO air strikes might have been more credible if they had come from Robin Cook, the if they had come from Robin Cook, the British foreign secretary and Hubert Vedrine, the French foreign minister, "because their countries are known to be

reluctant to go down that road."

Defending Mrs. Albright's action,
James Rubin, the State Department
spokesman, said that she had to take the Holbrooke, a U.S. envoy, in handling previous showdowns with Belgrade.

But that comparison betrays a serious misreading of the Rambouillet situation, in party's new internal democracy is misreading of the Rambouillet situation, fespected—an apparent warning to old-guard party hard-liners who might try to scize the opportunity to gain control of the candidate selection process.

The president called for party members to clearly define the rules for candidate selection by May 15.

Mariano Palacios, the party's national president said leaders would start perticular to deen flaws in her overall.

didate selection by May 15.

Mariano Palacios, the party's national president, said leaders would start next let pointing to deep flaws in her overall

Mrs. Albright has voiced no second thoughts about Rambouillet, concentrat-

tive, who requested anonymity, as did the United States from his followers. Mexico's Ruling Party, at 70, Ends a Tradition ments had shown themselves, case again, unable to handle a major crisis on their own doorstep. In his account, Mrs. Albright was essentially reprising the intensive brokering done by Richard Well-replaced a ILS envoy, in handling

MEXICO CITY - Mexico's ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party marked its 70th birthday Thursday with a call to hold an open presidential primary for the first time in its history, ahead of crucial elections in 2000.

The world's longest-ruling political party, it has been in power since its foundation in 1929 but faces its toughest challenge yet in elections next year amid growing support for parties on its left

At a ceremony celebrating his party's anniversary, President Ernesto Zedillo former communications minister, Major senior official said the Taleban had sent said he would break from tradition and General Tajudeen Olarenwaju, and a a clear signal that its desire to protect Mr. not handpick the party's presidential

ity that I will not designate the PRI's governing party after repeated economic candidate for the presidency of the recandidate for the presidency of the re-public," Mr. Zedillo said in a speech interrupted by applause from cabinet ministers, governors, legislators and party cadres - a handful of them with presidential ambitions of their own.

Under the Mexican Constitution adopted in 1917 after the country's bloody revolution, presidents may not be re-elected after their six-year term. But the party has guaranteed continuity through the use of the so-called presidential dedazo, or pointing out, whereby the sitting president chooses the party's candidate, dictating his successor.

The process has been criticized as "Today I reiterate with absolute clarthe face of eroding popularity for the July 2000 elections.

Mr. Zedillo said he would use all the influence at his disposition to ensure that the party's new internal democracy is

week hammering out rules for nom-inating the presidential candidate. Party officials said they expected the candi-thoughts about Ramb undernocratic and arcane, particularly in date to be picked by October ahead of the ing instead on getting assent from

BRIEFLY

British Jets Strike Iragi Defense Site

LONDON - British warplanes attacked an air defense site near the southern Iraqi city of Basra, on Thursday, defense officials said.

"I can confirm we have attacked an air defense site near Basra," a spokesman said. "I'm afraid no other details are available. All our

planes involved returned safely."

Britain earlier announced that the rules of engagement covering its joint parrols with the United States of the Iraq no-flight zones have been changed in response to an increas-ing number of attacks on their pi-

Defense Secretary George Robertson told Parliament in an emergency statement that the op-erations were still "purely defen-sive" in nature and that strikes against Iraqi military sites were in response to precise attacks aimed at allied pilots. (Reuters)

Cuba Calls Its Foes U.S.-Paid Traitors

HAVANA — The Cuban government, responding to foreign crit-icism over its trial of the island's best-known opposition figures, de-nounced the dissidents on Thursday as U.S.-funded traitors and mercen-

aries.
"Those who so repugnantly act in the service of the power which attacks our country are more than just violators of one or various articles of the penal code; they are real traitors to the nation, "said the Communist Party daily Granma in a sternly worded front-page article

that ran over three pages.

Cuba tried the so-called "Group of Four" dissidents for sedition, blocked foreign observers from the court and temporarily rounded up scores of its opponents. (Reuters)

For the Record

South Africa's Truth Commis sion rejected Thursday an unusual bid for collective amnesty from 27 senior members of the governing African National Congress for abuses under their authority during the anti-apartheid struggle. (WP)

X-Rays of a Hair Can Detect Breast Cancer, Researchers Find

WASHINGTON — Sophisticated X-ray studies conducted on a single hair may reveal whether a woman has breast cancer and could ultimately help doctors diagnose other cancers, new research sug-

The surprising link between breast cancer and microscopic changes in hair structure remains unexplained, said Veronica James, who led the research at the University of New South Wales in Australia. Others cautioned that, although the test appeared results were 100 percent accurate. highly accurate, it had been tested on too few women

to show how useful it would be. If the test's value is confirmed, however, it could

that hairs from breast-cancer patients generated atypical X-ray images when they were exposed to highintensity beams from a synchrotron, a radiation- getting breast cancer. generating machine bigger than a football field.

The technique sometimes erred if women had But when Mrs. James switched to pubic hair, the special risk factors.

itive for all 23 women diagnosed with breast cancer. people should not jump to conclusions."

be done for a few dollars on hairs received by mail Only some of the women had undergone treatment, so and could be offered to women without access to the test was not responding to that. And none had mammograms, said Tom Irving of the Illinois In- been treated with chemotherapy, which affects hair. stimte of Technology in Chicago.

Mrs. James, Mr. Irving and three colleagues found

Inexplicably, the test was also positive for all five women who did not have cancer but who had both a family history of breast cancer and a mutation in the

BRCA1 gene, which together confer high odds of It was also positive in one of eight healthy women with a family history of breast cancer but no BRCA1 permed or colored their hair in the past three months. mutation and in three of 20 healthy women with no

soults were 100 percent accurate.

Shart Yuspa, a hair expert at the National Cancer
Combined results of scalp and pubic-hair tests, Institute, said of the test: "The implications are very

published Thursday in the journal Nature, were pos- important. But at this point it seems preliminary, and

PILOT: Court-Martial Clears U.S. Marine Aviator in 20 Ski Lift Deaths in Italy

Continued from Page 1

this month. Charges against crew members who were in the rear cockpit during the accident were dropped last summer. The Marine Corps had been accused of howing to political pressure created

by ontrage in Italy over the accident, and the verdict brought renewed criticism.
"I think it's time, now that the truth has come out in the countroom, for the did not answer a question about whether

Marine Corps to look back as now man trial came about, and I think it's time for Corps.

The accident ended the lives of 20 to accident ended Congress, perhaps, to look at the Marine Corps once all these issues are resolved

INDONESIA:

Bank Reform Stalled Continued from Page 1

announcement. But in an interview with a local newspaper, Bisnis Indonesia, he scoffed at the suggestion that a single business ex-ecutive could delay a major government

Executives here said that in the past few days, Bank Nusa Nasional has

raised enough capital to stay alive.

Under the government's ambitious plan, it would carve bad loans out of the banks and inject \$34 billion in fresh capital into them. But first, it would winnow

out banks that are hopelessly indebted.
To avoid being closed, the banks must prove they can increase their capital to 4 percent of their total assets.

The government would provide 80 percent of the funds to do that. But the banks must raise the other 20 percent. Even with such massive government support, that is an impossible task for many Indonesian banks.

Speaking briefly before reporters, Captain Ashby did not discuss the verdict or take any questions.

"All I really want to say is this has been a tragedy for all involved, and my

people from countries across Europe, including seven friends from one town in Eastern Germany, a mother from Poland and her 12 year-old son, and a Belgian law student and her fiancée.

"They're in shock about this verdict." said John Arthur Eaves, Jr., an attorney representing some of the family mem-bers, many of whom attended the trial.

and look at what went wrong," Mr.

Spinner said at a news conference after the verdict.

Speaking briefly before reporters, is nowhen his Prowler EA-6B hit cables

The U.S. government had alleged that Captain Ashby was flying too low and too fast during a low-level training mission when his Prowler EA-6B hit cables trians and one Dutch person. carrying the gondola near Cavalese, Italy, on Feb. 3, 1998.

Jury members declined to comment, citing the pending cases. ■ Indignation and Shock in Italy

Italians were stunged and indignant at the acquittal, The Associated Press reported from Rome

"It's a shameful verdict," said Klaus Stampfl, the son of one of the victims, Maria Steiner, 60, a retired shopkeeper from northern Italy.

"It was certainly not a serious trial, not as serious as it would have been in

Italy," said Mr. Stampfl, who attended a

few sessions of Captain Ashby's trial. "I had the impression that they were almost

having fun at the hearings."

trians and one Dutch person.

"The verdict is disturbing," Prime
Minister Massimo D'Alema of Italy told the Senate.

RAI state television in an interview from the United States, where he was to meet Friday with President Bill Clinton. "We expected that justice would be done." "We are asking for justice and we shall explore all the legal ways to ensure

that those who are responsible are held liable," Mr. D'Alema said. The mayor of Cavalese, Mauro Gilmozzi, called the verdict "the de-

fense of a war machine." Achille Occhetto, the president of the foreign affairs committee of the Italian Chamber of Deputies, said: "In the face of many dead and such clear responsibility, this verdict is an act of arrogance and prevarication."

Inspector Fears Spy Charge Crimps UN Arms Hunt

By John M. Goshko

NEW YORK - The chief of United Nations arms inspectors says that allegations that the United States used his organization to spy on Iraq could jeopardize arms control by making governments suspicious about whether ostensibly independent verification is a cover for espionage.

"If people think they're entering into serious arms control verification regimes and find that someone's sneaking in through the back, then we're in serious trouble," said Richard Butler, the Australian diplomat who is executive chairman of the IN Special Commission that is charged with finding and

the UN Special Commission that is charged with finding and eliminating Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

Mr. Butler took part in what was billed as "a conversation" with a public television interviewer, Charlie

said U.S. intelligence agents used inspection teams of the Special Commission, without Mr. Butler's knowledge, to obtain information for the Clinton administration's campaign against President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.
Asked what he knew about the allegations, Mr. Butler

replied: "My answer couldn't be simpler: Nothing."

He asked rhetorically: "Did someone piggyback on us for their own purposes? I don't know."

Mr. Butler noted that "U.S. sources have shifted their position a few times" when asked to confirm whether the

United States, as reported, penetrated the Special Com-

mision for its own intelligence purposes, and he said he will try to find out exactly what the U.S. involvement was. However, he insisted "the core issue" is not whether the United States spied on the lraqis but Iraq's systematic and defiant insistence on doing everything it could to prevent the Rose, at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York to United Na respond to an article Tuesday in The Washington Post. It weapons. United Nations from learning the truth about its prohibited

TRADE: EU Warning to U.S.

Continued from Page 1

Although the new U.S. tariff sanctions were conditional, U.S. officials said Wednesday, European importers will have to post bonds with the Customs Service to cover them, a step that would effectively price most of the goods out of the U.S. market.

Although the penalties technically would not be collected unless a World Trade Organization panel approved the amount involved — a ruling that is expected in a few weeks — the move would inflict immediate pain on producers, shippers and importers by making it risky for them to continue transporting the targeted goods into the United States.

Separately, the U.S. House of Representatives voted Wednesday to ban the British and French supersonic jetliner, the Concorde, from landing in the United States. The measure now goes to

The ban would be retaliation for a European ruling that would stop many older American airplanes from landing in Europe. American officials contend Europe's restriction is intended to promote the sale of new engines and aircraft made by European manufacturers. The European Commission, the EU's

intention of abandoning its plan to out-law the use of so-called hush kits on noisy aircraft from April 1, 2002, despite the U.S. threat to ban Concordes. We have no intention of reversing a decision that everyone in Europe supports," a spokeswoman, Sarah Lambert

executive arm, made it clear it had no

France-Presse Sir Leon, the European trade commissioner, said Thursday that the EU would not respond to the new U.S. tariffs linked to the banana dispute until the World Trade Organization ruled on the dispute, a gesture that appeared to leave a door open for negotiations in the com-

according to Agence

ing weeks.
"Our door remains open," said a spokesman for the U.S. trade representative, Charlene Barshersky. "Our No. 1 objective would be to achieve a negotiated solution." But Ms. Barshefsky herself made clear that Washington would not back down on sanctions, and she said it was up

to the Europeans to amend their banana import system rather than seek to drag out the WTO appeals process.

"Bananas is a case where Europe has four times lost on the question of wheth-er its banana regime is legal under global rules," Ms. Barshefsky said in Beijing,

حكذامن الأحل

said.

EUROPE

Kosovo War Gives Cover for Murder

Serb Villagers Live in Fear of Nighttime Abductions by 'Terrorists'



not succeed by Wednesday, a spokes-man for Prime Minister Tony Blair said

Asked whether the government might

set a firm deadline to force a break-

through in talks, he agreed but declined

During negotiations a year ago on the

Belfast peace agreement, Mr. Blair snc-

cessfully used the tactic of a firm dead-

line for agreement to pressure the war-

Implementation of the peace agree-ment has been stalled because Ulster

Unionist leader David Trimble, the

province's designated first minister, re-

fuses to sit in an executive cabinet with

Sinn Fein until its military wing, the

Irish Republican Army, disarms.

Mr. Blair has publicly supported Mr.

Trimble's call for the IRA to start an

arms handover, stepping up pressure on

"It's got to bappen," the spokesman said: "We are absolutely confident it will happen."

On Thursday his spokesman made

clear that the government was deter-mined that the handover of powers to a devolved administration in Belfast The

ring politicians to compromise.

Thursday.

ing difficult."

Sina Fein.

would go ahead.

ntillet Stint Critic

with the wife

BRIEFII

100

Harrish Jets &

Iron Infered

By Carlotta Gall New York Times Service

VELIKA HOCA, Yugoslavia - The whole village turned out, some 300 explained, but most seem to be score-people gathered on the hillside beside a settling or revenge attacks between small 12th-century Serbian Orthodox Serbs and ethnic Albanians. chapel. They were burying a villager, a The district around this Serbian village man of 42, who was kidnapped Saturday in southwestern Kosovo has seen almost and handed back dead a few days later.

Peasant women in homespun aprons and head scarves, and men, mostly farmthe mud track and stood among the graves in the sunshine.

sinister trend in the war in Kosovo. While

Thursday with Prime Minister Bertie Ahern of Ireland, who has also called on

The Good Friday agreement, signed last April 10, established a complex

political blueprint for the province in-

cluding a promise of a share in political

power for Sinn Fein and a two-year

She has already indicated that the

target date for setting np the assembly may slip from next week until the end of

. For its part, the IRA has vowed not to

turn in the arsenal it used to fight a 30-

year opposition to British rule - at least

Trimble is injecting a new condition, as last year's Good Friday accord only set a

finishing date for the process, of May

The IRA's pro-British loyalist foes, seeing themselves as defenders of Prot-

estants against Irish Republican vio-

disarm until the IRA starts.

there is a less obvious war in which people disappear, or are killed stealthily. often at night and often close to home.

one killing a day in the last two weeks.

The killings are almost always un-

'They are criminal acts of murder,' said one international monitor working ers, their hands in their pockets, climbed in the region. "Eight people were killed in as many days. You cannot attribute the murders to either side; they are just Dobrivoje Savalic was a victim of a dead bodies on the side of the road."

Mr. Savalic, a father of three, had gone Serbian forces and guerrillas of the Kosovo Liberation Army are engaged in a series of clashes around the province, armed men and beaten, according to villagers. Three days later they were handed back — Dobrivoje Savalic dead and his brother badly injured. **Deadline for Coalition in Ulster**

It is not clear who the kidnappers were, but they were almost certainly ethnic Albanians. International monitors from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe arranged the re-turn of the beaten man and his brother's body through members of the Kosovo Liberation Army, who were apparently very embarrassed by the incident.

There was no doubt in the minds of the residents of Velika Hoca as to who was guilty. Emotions spilled over inside the tiny chapel, as mourners brushed by the centuries-old frescos on the walls to lay flowers on the open coffin and kiss the body. Men wept, and the dead man's father collapsed outside on the grass.

"It is hard to say farewell to Dobrivo-je, killed by terrorists," a mourner said in a speech over the grave. "His death re-news all our memories of kidnapped relatives and friends of the past months."

"They want to empty Kosovo of all Serbs," he went on. "Nothing is safe from the terrorists, not family nor chil-The comments by Mr. Blair's spokes-man coincided with efforts in Belfast by his secretary for Northern Ireland, Mo Mowlam, to bridge the gap between the pro-British Protestant party led by Mr. Trimble and Catholic nationalists.

The Serbian authorities, and almost all Serbs in the ethnic-Albanian-dominated province, describe the guerrillas as terrorists. Velika Hoca, and the neighboring village of Zociste, are purely Serbian and lie in an area controlled by the rebels. Wooded hills rise up around the village

and the villagers say they are trapped.

Serbian police regularly, and a police armored vehicle guarded the road during the funeral. But the villagers are mostly left to themselves.

until it sees political progress.

Sinn Fein says it is doing all it can to bring about disarmament but says Mr. The Reverend Milenko Dragicevic. the Orthodox priest who gave a graveside sermon, said later: "Outside of Hoca, beyond what you can see, there is no more freedom anymore. That was the point of my speech. They went out of this cradle and look what happened."

After the service, Mr. Dragicevic said



The body of Dobrivoje Savalic lying next to his grave before burial

Wednesday. A Serb civilian, Mr. Savalic was chopping wood with his brother when they were kidnapped, allegedly by ethnic Albanian rebels.

timates for missing ethnic Albanians range from dozens to bundreds.

Among the mourners in Velika Hoca were five Serbian women who said they had been forced at gunpoint to leave their bomes one night in July. The men were separated from the women and were marched into the woods, Since that night, the 16 Serbian men have not been seen.

We do not know if they are alive or dead," said Petra Costic, who lost two sons that night. "We just want to know what happened."

The ethnic Serbs in Kosovo represent only 10 percent of the population, and despite the heavy presence of the Yugoslav Army and of police, the village communities feel at risk. They invariably express a determination to stay on in their ancient villages where their ancestors are lence, have equally insisted they will not be knew of 40 cases of missing Serbs buried, but their determination is a mixsince the war began a year ago. Es- ture of aggression and fear.

"I have never thought of leaving," said Mrs. Costic, "I am not a politician, I do not know these things. I am just a mother fighting to know if my sons are alive or dead.

Four Serbs Reported Killed

Serbian sources said four Serbs, including two from the security forces, were killed in Kosovo on Thursday, Reuters reported from Pristina, the provincial capital. Serbian security forces continued to

show a beavy presence throughout Kosovo, with troops and armored vehicles moving around on main roads.

The sources said two Serbian brothers and a policeman were killed in separate incidents overnight and that the soldier son of one brother was missing. A Serbian Army officer was also killed in fighting on Wednesday.

BRIEFLY

Ex-Mistress Accuses Dumas in Scandal

PARIS - Roland Dumas, a former foreign minister, was accused Thursday by his former mistress in a wide-ranging investiga-tion into corruption at the French oil giant Elf Aquitaine.

Denying previous statements. Christine Deviers-Joncour admitted in an interview that she had bought a dozen antique Greek statues for Mr. Dumas with 264,029 francs (\$44,000) provided by Alfred Sirven, a former Elf-Aquitaine execudve, and said he pledged in 1989 to find her a job with the conglomerate, then owned by the state.

The statements, issued both in an interview with the Paris-Match magazine as well as to investigating magistrates, threaten to trigger new legal action against Mr. Dumas who, as head of the Constitutional Council, is fifth in the state hier-

Mrs. Deviers-Joncour's turnabout followed 15 months of interviews and statements to magistrates in which she and Mr. Dumas denied that he found her a job as a lobbyist for Elf or that he benefited personally.

Suicide Bomber Succeeds in Turkey

DIYARBAKIR, Turkey - A suspected Kurdish suicide-bomber killed herself and wounded four civilians on Thursday in an attack in the southeastern city of Batman, according to security officials.

They said the woman, thought to be a member of Abdullah Ocalan's Kurdish Workers Party, set off a bomb in the main square.

The security officials said that the target of the attack was a police station in the square, but that the bomb exploded before the woman reached the building.

Turkey has seen sporadic violent protests against the capture of Mr. Ocalan last month by Turkish special forces in Kenya. He faces a possible death penalty. (Reuters)

For the Record

The trial of the last living World War II concentration camp commander, Dinko Sakic, was adjourned in Zagreb. Croatia, on Thursday sbortly after it opened, when the defendant was declared unfit to stand trial.

ASIA/PACIFIC

Albright Presses Asians On Khmer Rouge Trial

Looks 'Difficult,' Britain Says

LONDON — Britain may set a new ernment was considering the formation

deadline for setting up a coalition cab- of an executive cabinet without Sinn

inet-like executive in Northern Ireland if Fein - a move that could trigger an end

current attempts to break a stalemate do to the IRA's cease-fire.

not succeed by Wednesday, a spokes
Mr. Trimble beld talks in Dublin on

Stressing that the original date next the IRA to begin decommissioning its

week was a target rather than a deadline, the spokesman said, "March 10 is lookThe Good Friday agreement, signed

to say what might happen if it were not deadline for decommissioning.

By Keith B. Richburg Vashington Post Service

wanted to see the top Khmer Rouge lead-ers in Cambodia brought before an international genocide tribunal, and she dismissed the warning of Prime Minister ry's integration into Indonesia, were engaging in a campaign of violence and renewed civil war in the country.

"We want these top leaders to be brought to justice, and we support an international tribunal," Mrs. Albright said at a press conference in Bangkok with the Thai foreign minister, Surin Pitsuwan. We disagree with the point that Hun Sen and others in his leadership bave made that bringing these people to justice would be destabilizing.

To the contrary, Mrs. Albright

said, "we think it is the only way to reconciliation."

In a letter sent Thursday to the UN secretary-general, Kofi Annan, Mr. Hun Sen said that while his government never rejected the accountability of the Khmer Rouge leaders for the crimes of genocide," he was urging caution because a tribunal could risk the country's fragile national reconciliation. Mr. Hun Sen has pursued a policy of

luring Khmer Ronge guerrillas in from the jungle with a grant of amnesty and by allowing them a kind of semi-autonomy in their traditional stronghold around the gem mining town of Pailin, on the Thai-Cambodian border.

way to gauge whether people there the kind of broad autonomy now to offered, or outright independence.

In UN-brokered talks with Porte former Khmer Rouge officers and its former khmer Rouge officers and its former colonial power to the kind of broad autonomy now to offered, or outright independence. rank-and-file, who bave already sur-rendered, into turning back to the jungle and renewing the guerrilla war in Cam-

The prime minister said Cambodia was studying the idea of establishing a was studying the idea of establishing a south African-style "truth commission," one that could grant amnesty to sion," one that could grant amnesty to south that could grant amnesty to south the could grant amnest the could gra former Khmer Rouge cadres in ex-change for confessions of past crimes.

United States would reject the "truth commission" formula for the top leaders. "A truth commission is not a substitute for an international tribunal," she said. Her position supports the findings of a

panel of UN experts who also recommended a full genocide trial for Khmer Rouge leaders. On a later stop here in Indonesia, Mrs.

On a later stop neer in the independenceescalating violence in the independenceescalating violence of East Timor, in the minded province of East Timo wake of the government's surprise offer to grant freedom to the territory if its the Timorese people."

latest autonomy proposal was rejected. Mrs. Albright spent the bulk of ber meeting bere with Foreign Minister Ali JAKARTA — Secretary of State Alatas discussing the continuing nego-Madeleine Albright said the United States tiations over East Timor's fate. She expressed concern about reports that mi-litia units in East Timor, opposed to gaging in a campaign of violence and intimidation with weapons supplied by the Indonesian military.
"We are concerned about the reports

we have beard and also about the violence," she said.

Mr. Alatas said the reports that the military had armed the pro-integrationist militias were "totally unfounded." He

said the government bad reactivated a said the government bad reactivated a long-existing "people's auxiliary guard" unit armed with wooden sticks to belp maintain security in the troubled province. But he added, "We do concede that, unfortunately - and we are deeply concerned to note it - there have been instances lately of clashes."

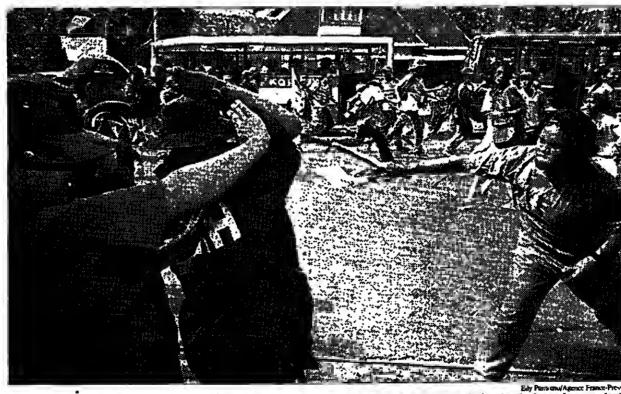
He said the East Timor violence marked "some degree of consolidation of forces on both sides" of the independence question, adding that "we are doing all we can to overcome the simation." He said that the weapons being used there "are definitely not firearms supplied by our armed forces.

Mr. Alatas warned of the risk of more violence if the world community insisted on a referendum in East Timor as the only way to gauge wbether people there want the kind of broad autonomy now being

In UN-brokered talks with Portugal. East Timor's former colonial power, Indonesian officials have rejected the idea of a referendum in favor of some un-specified "consultation" process with the people of East Timor to measure

In warning against a referendum, Mr. Alatas raised the specter of a new UN hange for confessions of past cannot the peacekeeping force that would be Mrs. Albright, however, said the peacekeeping force that would be Mrs. States would reject the "truth needed to police the territory in advance of such a vote. A referendum, he said. would require Indonesia to dismantle its existing government in the territory and withdraw its troops, and a peacekeeping force would have to be sent in. "Who will foot the bill?" he asked. "Who will

send the troops?" Mrs. Albright said the United States "credible means to discern the will of



A student protester hitting a soldier with a flagpole on Thursday in a street battle in the Indonesian capital.

BRIEFLY

Anwar's Lawyer Urges Charges Be Brought Against Police Chief

KUALA LUMPUR - A lawyer for Anwar Ibrahim, the former deputy prime minister being ried on 10 counts of corruption and sodomy, urged the authorities Thursday to charge a former police chief with attempted murder for assaulting Mr. Anwar after his arrest last year. The lawyer, Karpal Singh, addressed a royal commission

on its last day of hearings on injuries that Mr. Anwar suffered after being arrested in September.

A former inspector-general of the police, Abdul Rahim Noor, has admitted hitting Mr. Anwar on the night of bis arrest but says Mr. Anwar provoked bim by calling him "father of dogs."

Mr. Anwar, who denies the charges against him, was fired and arrested in September. His trial is at the beart of political turbulence in Malaysia. Mr. Rahim's lawyer told the commission there were no

grounds for charging the former police chief with attempted murder, which carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in Doctors have told the commission that Mr. Anwar was

lncky to have survived the beating, saying he had received blows to "lethal areas" of the neck and forehead. The commission is to submit a report soon. (Reuters)

Afghan Factions to Hold Talks

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan - Afghanistan's warring factions will bold face-to-face talks to try to find a peaceful end to their protracted conflict, the United Nations special envoy Lakhdar Brahimi said Thursday.

With roughly 90 percent of Afghanistan under its control, the Taleban religious militia will meet their northern-based opponents on March 10 on neutral territory in the Turkmen capital, Ashkabad.

Mr. Brahimi warned, however, that a failure at the negotiation table would mean another season of bloodletting on the battlefield.

Taipei Mayor Visits Hong Kong

HONG KONG - Once denied entry into Hong Kong, Maynr Ma Ymg-jeou of Taipei, the Taiwanese capital, was allowed to come into the Chinese-controlled territory

Thursday, but not in his official capacity. Mr. Ma planned to meet Friday with Hong Kong opposition political figures, while learning about Hong Kong's efforts to clean up the environment and lessen the

threat of landslides in the mountainous territory.

Mr. Ma applied to visit Hong Kong as a private citizen in 1997 to observe the territory's transfer from British to Chinese rule but was turned down. China does not recognize the authority of any Taiwanese leaders.

Chinese Dam Dislocates Millions

China will move 2 million more people in a new wave of relocations to clear the way for the giant Three Gorges Dam, state media said Thursday.

The dam, the biggest hydroelectric project in the world, is intended to control flooding along the Yangtze River and supply power for development.

Due for completion in 2009, the dam will create a 500-kilometer-long (350-mile-long) lake, inundating thousands

Troops Rout Anti-Habibie Demonstrators In Jakarta

JAKARTA - Indonesian troops punched and beat rock-throwing students who took to the streets of the capital Thursday, calling on President B. J. Habibie to resign.

The protest by several hundred people

was the first violent anti-government demonstration in Jakarta in more than a month. Witnesses said a news photographer and two students were injured. Some were bleeding after being hit by rocks. Police said about one dozen protesters were arrested. The students bad marched from a uni-

versity campus to a monument commemorating the founding of Indonesia Troops blocked them from marching

farther after police said they did not bave a protest permit. The two sides clashed several times before dispersing.

Protest organizers called for Mr.

Habibie to be replaced by a transitional administration. Mr. Habibie, who has promised great-

er democracy for the world's fourthmost populous nation, has scheduled a parliamentary election for June 7. A new president is to be selected by a special assembly later in the year.

Student protests played a pivotal role in the ouster last May of President Suharto after 32 autocratic years in power. Last year, thousands of students regularly staged sometimes violent street protests against Mr. Habibie's government despite its program for political reform.

Also on Thursday, about 700 supporters of Mr. Suharto railied peacefully outside the office of Indonesia's attorney general and demanded an end to an official corruption investigation of the former leader. (Reuters, AFP, AP)

48 Parties to Contest Election

Indonesia's first open parliamentary election in decades will involve 48 political parties, raising the possibility of a fragmented Parliament with no clear majority, some analysts and officials said, Reuters reported from Jakana.

But an independent political analyst. Mochtar Buchori, said the huge number of parties would split the votes and increase the chances of former President Subarto's Golkar party returning to power.

The huge number of political parties effectively ends the three-party system set up by Mr. Suharto.

EDITORIALS/OPINION

Iran Votes for Change

America Should Help

The power of democracy is altering Iran. Reported results from municipal elections show that Iranians overwhelmingly supported moderate poliocians associated with President Mohammed Khatami. The voting mirrored the presidendal election that swept Mr. Khatami to power two years ago. Al-though conservative clerics remain the paramount rulers of Iran, Iranians clearly are impatient to lift religious repression and transform their country.

Iran's constitution, adopted after Ayatollah Khomeini's 1979 Islamic revolution, provides for local elections, but none were held. Mr. Khatami called last Friday's vote hoping to create a more decentralized civil society that could support his agenda of political and social change. His gamble apparently paid off. The winners included libral alaries like Abellet Nation liberal clerics like Abdollah Nouri, a Khatami ally who was forced out of the national cabinet last year by clerical conservatives and who has now been elected to the Tehran city council.

The high turnout that carried many moderate candidates to victory may now embolden Mr. Khatami to take further conciliatory steps toward America. Washington would benefit greatly from a more moderate and internationally responsible Iran, and sbould do what it can to encourage change. While continuing to support exchanges by sports seams and cultural

Harsh Rule Remains

In a view that has gained broad support in the West, the vote in Iran bespeaks popular confidence in a by-now proven moderate who has put a popular foundation under his brave challenge of the hard-line fundamentalists in Tehran. To some, this is the time to end diplomatic hesitation and, by lifting the U.S. embargo, back Iran's reformers in

But is it so simple as that? There is no denying the hravery of the "reformers," especially of the street demonstrators, including many women, an abused class in Iran, President Mohammed Khatami has his own place among the reformers. However, only the lower ramparts of government ap-pear to be open to democratic procedure. Parliament, the intelligence and judicial systems, the foreign policy ap-paratus and the security and defense establishments apparently stay under the traditional-clerical control of the man called supreme leader, Ayatollah

Sayed Ali Khamenei, Just weeks ago an ugly sequence of killings, stabbings and mysterious deaths unfolded among well-known dissidents and writers. A tug of war then tonk place between elements in the Islamic hierarchy trying to cover up these crimes and elements trying to groups, the Clinton administration should begin to ease trade restrictions against Iran in ways that would have

the most impact on ordinary Iranians.

The White House rightly insists that normal relations cannot be completely restored until Iran stops trying to build nuclear and other unconventional weapons, severs links with terrorism and accepts peacemaking efforts be-tween Israeli and Arab leaders. Iran has distanced itself from terror and now concedes the Palestinians' right to make peace with Israel. If further steps can be taken, the Mideast will be a safer place and Iran may resume its tradi-

tional role as a counterweight to Iraq.

Specifically, the White House should approve a request by an American trad-ing company to sell 3 million tons of grain and 400,000 tons of sugar requested by the Iranian government. President Bill Clinton ought to ease restrictions on imports of Iranian carpets, leaving in place only measures to discourage the exploitation of child-labor. Neither step requires congres-sional action. American food sales would make it easier for the Khatami government to subsidize the diet of families hurt by collapsed world oil prices. Permitting carpet imports would allow

the creacon of many new Iranian jobs. Iran's people have once again voted for change. America should welcome their democranic choice and extend

new opportunities for friendship. -THE NEW YORK TÎMES.

bring the offenders to justice. What was at stake was something essential to a modern society, the application of the rule of law. On that issue, President

Khatami was plainly on the right side. The rule of law would no doubt be greeted with deep satisfaction by many Iranian citizens. Some, however, might be even more pleased to be living under a system whose law they had had a hand in approving. As for Mr. Khatarni, it seems he favors not simply the rule of law but the rule of Islamic law. Whether that is the Iranian people's emerging preference remains to be tested.

Nor are the foreign, defense and security policies of Iran under democratic governance; not its support of terrorism in the terrorism-soaked Middle East, nor its hostility to the flawed but still live peace negotiations between Israe-lis and Palestinians, nor its pursuit of weapons of mass destruction.

Europe is impatient to get back to business as usual with Iran. Many Europeans dismiss American reluctance to jump into the fast lane of normalization as an emotional over-reaction to Iran's kidnapptog of Amer-ican diplomats in 1979. Perhaps there is a bit of a kidnapping factor in the American attitude. But there is also concern for the harsh Iranian policies that remain in place two decades later. -THE WASHINGTON POST.

Truth About Guatemala

is moving beyond earlier horrors, some arising from rule hy the left, others from rule hy the right. In this demanding passage, no country has set a braver example than Guatemala. The latest landmark to its long trek back from human and social disaster is a huge report on human rights violations committed by the contestants in its 34year fratricidal war.

The report was commissioned as part of a post-Cold War package of measures aimed at national reconciliation, in this instance at "reconciliation through truth." In a reflection of the military's much reduced but still lingering influence, the report does not name the guilty, set up trials or otherwise point toward justice. But it tells truths whose acknowledgment can help Guatemala return from the dark.

Historical and cultural considerations made Guatemala a bonfire waiting to be kindled. Political considerations supplied the torch. Fidel Castro had come to power in Cuba, stirring in other Latin places both revolucionary hopes and counterrevolutionary fears. In Guatemala, war - civil, class, ideological, racial - exploded.

When it was over, says the independent Historical Clarification Commission, the count of civilian dead was 42,275, and of "disappeared" 6,159; the estimated total of dead was 200,000. The scale and savagery of Guatemala's losses, especially among the indigenous Mayan population,

For whole groups of countries, what post-Cold War politics is mostly about other wars pale. Nor is it all over. Just other wars pale. Nor is it all over. Just last year a Roman Catholic bishop who had directed a human rights study was beaten to death with a concrete block.

The report confirms that military governments and the armed forces were responsible for the great majority of Guatemala's violeoce. Cuba, says the report, provided the guerrillas political, logistical and training support, although never enough to give them a military advantage.

Meanwhile, the American role was

going well beyond the report's note of involvement in "some illegal state operations." Washington arranged a coup in 1954 to depose an elected leader whose reform program, which struck a good number of Latin democrats as giving Guatemala a chance, struck the CIA as tocipiently Communist. Washington supported the rule of the anti-Communist officers and oligarchs whose human rights pracoces form the substance of the new report. The inferno actually accelerated in some of the years when a horrified U.S. Congress forced a suspension of military aid, thereby removing what minimal restraint even a feeble American

presence supplied. Whether the success of reform in the 1950s could have preempted the immense tragedies that unfolded later must be left to the historians. The CIA still bars the public from the full documentation. We Americans need our own truth commission.

- THE WASHINGTON POST

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Good Riddance to Archaic Frontiers in Europe

PARIS — When the first direct elec-tions to the European Parliament were held a generation ago, Jacques Chirac was hostile. He derided the list of candidates backed by then President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing as "the for-

Now, calling on the French Parliament to ratify the Treaty of Amsterdam, which strengthens the European Union, President Chirac declares: 'Europe is the fruit of a necessity, an ideal, and an act of will. ... To be ambitious for France is also to be am-

binous for Europe."

Elections for the European Parliament are scheduled this year for June 13, and while, as Mr. Chirac says, "the people don't feel sufficiently con-cerned with building the Union," France will send a dedicated delegation to Strasbourg.

There are plenty of critics and, at the

margins of left and right, some who complain that the nation is being overtaken. But the great majority in France takes European integration for granted. There are issues about how Europe runs, how it behaves, as there are about any poliocal or social enoty, but not about whether it is and should be a fact By Flora Lewis

of life. B.E. (Before Europe) is almost forgotten, poignantly recalled on some touching occasions that provoke special comment, as in Bertrand Poirot-

Delpech's column this week.

Mr. Poirot-Delpech writes a subtle, literary type of column for Le Monde. and if it has a political aspect, it is more an expression of personal feeling and judgment and can be considered reflective of his compatriots.

He was apparently traveling recently by train across the French-Italian border. He noticed that the customs huts were still there, but nobody made the train stop, nobody stamped passports,

nobody checked bags.
"Until 1940," he wrote under the title "Fronders," we imagined that the southern Alps justified dying to keep the flag at one pass or another. Absurd confrontation of sentinels made to be friends. Absurd as it still is not far away, between Serbs and Kosovars. For us, this sinister comedy of

centuries-old hatred is finally finished. The customs officers have packed up and gone ...

ioned to credit united Europe with this relief. But good for her, if it is to her that we owe the end of rehashed rivalries, fratricidal hecatombs, and if she has replaced the long lines of crosses [in military cemeteries] which served the cult of inviolable frontiers with its fanfares, lines of huses, polyglot cable

cars, merry picnics ... "What a joy to see the physical disappearance of a frontier."

But guards do get on the train, and ask for documents. He recalled the way "Germans demanded 'papers," rapping their Mansers against the compartment windows during the occupation ... " At the next station, reinforcements are there. Everything is ready to end the hopes of clandestine travelers from Egypt, Albania or Africa seeking a better life.

'Oh, what a polite arrest. Nothing to

disturb the passengers who are legally in order. Nonetheless, such voyagers left behind at the train station while innocents travel on in an uneasy, somewhat cowardly silence, we haven't

seen that since — guess since when!"

The writer's compassion for the detained illegal immigrants, reminding

'It is considered archaic, old-fasb- him of what it was like to have to be terrified of authority, is addressed to an utterly current controversy. Citizens of EU countries can move freely, but im-migration from outside is the subject of

fierce political dispute.

But Mr. Poirot-Delpech's musings also show how very much has changed, in everyday life, everyday attindes, expectations and expectations. everyday assumptions and expecta-tions, since Europe was only a geo-graphical word. He is right that it seems more up-to-date to complain about the nore up-to-date to complain about the latest Brussels regularion, the latest hypocrincal claim, the latest pompous speech than to make a point of the difference that the existence of Europe as a community has brought.

as a community has brought.

Mr. Chirac, in his message to the National Assembly, said that "far from being incompatible with the idea of nation, Europe is the political and spiritual space where this idea can breathe and enrich itself with the greatest strength." The erstwhile Gaullist has become a staunch European, and the ilbes of detractors don't bother him. iibes of detractors don't bother him.

It is also useful though, once in a while, to hear the reasons put in simple human terms.

Political Trouble in Indonesia Worries the Neighbors

SYDNEY — East Asia's economic crisis has mutated The writer is prime minister of Singapore.

into political challenges. After years of sustained growth, the sudden and sharp drop in johs and standards of living was politically and socially traumatic. The challenges are most evident in Indonesia. The crisis

catalyzed political change in the world's fourth most populous naoon, making it more difficult to deal with the economic problems. Politics and economics are now inextricably intertwined.

When the crisis first erupted, former President Suharto thought he could ride it out, as be had ridden out so many others before. But this was a different type of challenge. It was a battle against an invisible opponent, the market, which could not be defeated by military orders and

By Goh Chok Tong

strategies. The panic in the mar- forces have been released in ket overwhelmed his government and resulted in his exit. The poliocal change came in

circumstances that nobody predicted. The consequences were complex, far-reaching and unsettling. Ethnic and religious fault lines have opened up. The government now appears prepared to consider in-

dependence for East Timor. The genie of change is out of the bottle. But can a political system huilt over 30 years be replaced overnight? If the Soviet Union offers a lesson, it is that the process of change itself can be very destructive.

Indonesia, making for a complicated and uncertain political equation. Fundamental issues about the role of the military, the place of minorities and religion in the polity, and the relaconship of Jakarta with the outlying provinces have emerged. The government has to cope with these volcanic

pressures. It is not easy. Half the Indonesian population is living at or below the poverty line. Almost 40 million Indonesians are unemployed, and the number is growing. Law and order is breaking down. Crimes have increased. Ethnic New social and political and religious differences, which

sian society has become brittle.
It will take time for the new
dynamics to settle down. The

immediate prognosis is for greater uncertainty. The general election in June, and the election of a new president in November, will be crucial milestones. The elections will not in

themselves resolve all the fundamental political questions that are now being debated. After elections, the new Indonesian leader will still have to reckon with a complex and fluid political situation.

But an essential condition for stability is the population's perception of how the elections are conducted. A result that is accepted as legitimate and fair by

had previously been kept in check, have resurfaced with tragic consequences. Indoneinvestor confidence.

An outcome that is considered otherwise will result in political upheaval. Even with fair and clean elections, a result that does not meet the people's aspirations will prolong political instability.

What happens to Indonesia has a defining influence. In the 1960s, Indonesia unsettled the region. In the 1980s and '90s, we all benefited from a stable and prosperous Indonesia. For better or worse. Indonesia's stahility affects regional stability.

This comment was adapted by the International Herold Trito the Asio Society in Sydney.

Beware of Fixed Exchange Rates and Currency Pegs

ONDON - Fixed exchange rates and currency pegs can play a role in specific circumstances and at certain moments to history. They are useful when tackling hyperinflation (Latin America), or when a country's financial system is close to meltdown and policymakers lack all credib-

economies to crisis. Their woes were inflicted by exchange rate regimes that pegged their currencies to the dollar for too long, well after such arrangements were needed to establish the credibility of the Asian economies.

When the Asian economic miracle was all the rage and capital flooded into Asia, the exchange rates could not hudge. So it was domestic liquidity that bore the full hrunt of capital inflow, inflating like By David Roche

itors and Asian dehtors thought that the exchange rate was fixed and immutable, they factored oo exchange rate risk into their lending and borrowing. As more money flooded to than could be used productively in ecocomies devoid of well regulated finan-But fixed exchange 'rates cial markets or banking systems o heen the cause of the capable of pricing risk, the cost illnesses for which they are of capital fell to absurdly low cited as a cure. Take the Asian, levels, particularly in dollars. So did the marginal productivity of

tovestment Massive unproductive investment caused by the un-derpricing of capital risk was the prime cause of the Asian crisis. It would not have happened if exchange rates had

been free to fluctuate. Hong Kong's currency peg may have lent its monetary authority credibility in the dark days after Tiananmen, but it has also bequeathed one of the most distorted and uncompetitive What is stopping it? The governomies in Asia. The peg emment wants to maintain the distorted and uncompetitive

And because foreign cred-ors and Asian debtors thought nominal interest rates for 15 years. But Hong Kong's in-flation was higher, so Hong Kong benefited from the curse of negative real interest rates. In effect, the banks paid the

real estate tycoons to borrow money. While the government allowed the population to grow hy nearly 3 percent a year, land for housing was kept in scarce supply. If a scarce resource (capital) is priced as a free good, it will be wasted.

Hong Kong now faces a dreadful dilemma on all fronts. The real estate bubble has made it one of the most expensive and uncompetitive places in the world to do business. Despite a landslide fall, the real estate sector is still a swollen tumor to the heart of the economy. It oeeds to shrink further and a new, productive economy must emerge from the chrysalis of the old.

currency peg at all costs. But to apply the correct economic do so and make Hong Kong policies to maintain them. competitive means wholesale But as a result of cultural dideflation. If the currency cannot devalue, then prices, wages and the cost of real estate must.

prop up the peg and the tycoons the same time. So much for the idea that currency pegs and fixed exchange rates are some sort of

Yet the government tries to

When it comes to big populous countries and economic hlocs, the market must be allowed to price all economic factors, including a country's currency. The market must also be allowed to punish policy

errors and political uncertainty. The only way to ensure exchange rate stability is to pursue the right policies. It is impossible to today's world to match the "right" exchange rate to the "wrong" policies, as

Brazil has discovered. If you try to fix the price of one thing, for example the currency, then it only leads to distortion in the price of everything else. Take the current talk of target zones for yen, dollar and euro. It may well come to oothing, but it represents a major political attack on free market mechanisms by advocates of 'mind over market' economic philosophies.

The target zone idea hides an ugly economic and political

Let us assume that the world divides into three currency blocs and that fluctuations between the yea, the euro and the dollar are limited by political decree. The only economically efficient way for this to work is if the currencies' fixed exchange rates act like a Trojan horse, forcing policymakers to International Herald Tribune.

That is defensible in theory.

versity, it won't work globally. After all, the cultural diversity embraced by the euro zooe is minute compared with that of a tri-currency world.

So such a scheme would work only by political fiat, doing away with freedom of capmovement is a fundamental tenet of capitalism. It is key to the productive allocation of capital on a worldwide scale. And it is a tenet that particularly

benefits emerging markets.
Suppose that Japan and Europe pursued silly economic policies. Over time, the yen and the euro would become uncompetitive under a fixed exchange rate regime.

The current account of both hlocs would be painted red, and capital would exit to the dollar region in search of higher returns. The natural tendency of both the yen and the curo would be to weaken against the dollar. To maintain both currencies within their target zones, poli-cymakers would have to raise

domestic interest rates to astronomical levels. Their mind-set in wanting fixed exchange rates is rather like trying to stop an automobile from shuddering on a bumpy road by removing the shock absorbers (for which read financial markets) rather than repairing the road (for which read: bad economic polices that are politically expedient).

The writer is president of Independent Strategy, 0 global investment consultancy. He contributed this comment to the

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1899: Royal Modesty

PARIS - The "Figaro" tells a story of King Oscar of Sweden.
He asked a girls' school if he
might examine the pupils on
history. "Can you mention any famous King of Sweden?" was his question. "Gustavus Adol-phus" and "Charles XII" came in succession, and then, from a small child, hesitatingly, "Oscar II!" The King, arnused, asked if she could name any great deed by Oscar II. The poor child, almost crying, stammered out: "I don't know any. "Never mind, my dear child," said the King; "neither do L"

1924: Women at Yale

NEW HAVEN - The possibility of Yale becoming a co-educational college has created a heated connoversy. Yale regards itself as one of the last ramparts of masculine isolation, but it has already 280 women graduate

students. The male undergraduates complain about the female graduates, who "snicker out loud all over the library, make eyes at the freshmen, giggle and disturb the studious atmosphere. They come to classes drenched with perfume, invade Sunday chapel and even appear in com-mons," one complains.

1949: Soviet Cinema

MOSCOW - Ivan Bolshakov, Minister of Cinematography, accused film critics of "diversionism" in the Soviet film industry. He said the leader was L. Trautherg, the president of the Cinema House" university. Trautherg was quoted as having said that Soviet film developed under the influence of Amer ican, French and German directors, operators and actors." Mr. Bolshakov said that among other subversive acts was a book in which D. W. Griffith was called "the father of the film art."

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So Much for Independent Counsels

WASHINGTON — At a pre-Inaugural party io January 1997, I asked a young man about his joh. "A law-yer," he said. "I'm working

on the Espy investigation." The Espy investigation? It had been so long since Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy had resigned in December 1994 under fire for accepting gifts from firms he regulated that I had forgotten that an independent counsel had been

named to prosecute him. The young lawyer assured me that the Espy task force had been busy. While we waited at the har, he called off the names of any number of people who had been indicted probe. None, I nonced, was named Espy.

Twenty months later, the independent counsel Donald Smaltz finally brought Mr. Espy to trial. The jury listened to seven weeks of testimony from 70 witnesses and took only nine hours to acquir Mr. Espy of all 30 charges that Mr. Smaltz had spent \$17 million investigating. Mr. Smaltz re-sponded: "The actual indictment of a public official may in fact be as great a deterrent as a conviction of that official."

At the first hearing last week on renewing the inde-pendent counsel statute. Senator Dick Durbin of Illinois, who had voted for the last renewal as a member of the House, cited Mr. Smaltz's ably try to protect him by at'outrageous' comment as tacking the independent coun-

By David S. Broder

changed his mind and now wanted to let the law die when it expires at the end of June. He is not alone. This turkey

is headed for extinction. The statute was written in 1978, part of overall ethics legislation spawned by the which President Richard Nixon used the Justice Department to cover up his lawhreaking and to harass those

investigating his crimes.
The cure has proved worse than the ailment. The American Bar Association, which was instrumental in passage of or convicted as a result of their the independent counsel statute, now opposes it.

The chairman of the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, Tennessee Republican Fred Thompson, joined Democrats in denouncing the experiment. Conceding that some of the 20 independent counsels have functioned well, mainly by quietly exonerating lower-level officials, he said that the intense media coverage of high-profile cases pressures the faw-yers to "turn over every possible leaf," ignoring the limits on time and money that most prosecutors must consider;

of fair play.

In return, partisans of the investigated official inevitably try to protect him by atone reason why he had sel. "so you have a free-for-all

and often breaking the canons

and public confidence suf-fers," Mr. Thompson said. Still, some Democrats want to rewrite the statute. Put in new safeguards and it can be made to work, they argued. And they challenged: If it disappears, what would you do about charges of lawbreaking

by the executive branch?

The answer, said Griffin Watergate scandal, during Bell, the Carter administration attorney general, is to go back to what America did for two centuries before the independent counsel statute appeared: Hold the Justice Department accountable. When the attorney general has a conflict of interest, he can recuse himself and name some other attorney from inside the government or outside, to handle the case. Mr. Bell did exactly that when an investigation was required into the finances of President Jimmy Carter's peannt warehouse - and a Republican prosecutor cleared Mr. Cartet

of any wrongdoing.
The president has the consitutional duty to see that the laws are "faithfully exe-cuted." The attorney general is his appointee. If the laws are not enforced, if crimes are covered up, the ultimate rem-edy is to vote them out of office and repudiate the party they represent.

The office of independent counsel is in effect a fourth branch of government, operating without any checks or balances. Don't try to fix it Let it die an unmourned death.

The Washington Post.

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OPINION/LETTERS

A Proposal for Bringing Peace to Sierra Leone

ment of the rebel and gov-

secretary-general should con-

of the UN Security Council.

bostilities, (2) facilitate im-

accords or their revision as

ipate as a political party.

The key to this effort lies

with Nigeria and its peace-

keeping partners. They need assurance of financial re-

sources to remain engaged. A

timetable would have to be

established for the peacekeep-

ers' continued stay in Sierra

Leone. This would make it

somewhat easier for the new civilian government in Nigeria

to continue to commit troops. The rebels and their ex-

next general election.

WASHINGTON — Following 30 years of ruinous mismanagement and nine years of civil and crossborder conflict, Sierra Leone

is in profound crisis. Sierra Leonean government forces significantly when a mobilization and disarmaand the military impasse be- civilian government comes tween the Nigerian-led West into office in May. The rebels African peacekeeping force, retain the capacity to keep on one side, and Revolution-fighting, apparently with exary United Front rebels and ternal support. remnants of the former army. Western media have given prominent coverage to the atrocities, destruction and violence inflicted on the civilian population.

There has recently been a renewed call for the return of Executive Outcomes, the private security force that had maintained a measure of se-curity through early 1997, to join With the peacekeeping

force in defeating the rebels.
This in itself is, bowever, insufficient. Sierra Leone needs a coherent and comprehensive strategy, rather than the reactive, piecemeal approach that has characterized the international response to the crisis to date. President Ahmad Tejan

Kabbah's government and the peacekeeping force must continue to be supported by the international community while a long-term effort at ensuring security and peace is Broadly speaking, there are

four conceivable scenarios. First, a peacekeeping force victory over the rebels; second, a rebel victory over the peacekeeping force; third, a protracted stalemate, with peacekeepers in control of Freetown and its environs and the rebels in control of the north and east of the country; and fourth, an internationally negotiated and enforced political settlement

Trenev fe

By John L. Hirsch

against determined guerrilla cease hostilities and recogforces are rarely conclusive, nize the leginimacy of his Moreover, the Nigerians have elected government. announced their intention to The virtual collapse of the leave or draw down their clude provisions for the de-

The second and third secon the other, present the innarios portend a dismal future ternational community with a for Sierra Leone. If the peacestark situation. After years of keepers withdraw and the international indifference, the rebels take over, Sierra Leone will descend into a reign of terror and violence. The third

> The key lies with Nigeria and its peacekeeping partners.

scenario would be tantamount to de facto partition. It would leave a significant part of the country in a no-man's land under rebel control. These two scenarios presage further social and economic disintegration, and more refugees and displaced persons — now more than 1.5 million, according to United Nations bumanitarian sources.

The best scenario for Sierra Leone is an internationally negotiated political settlement, agreed on by both Mr. Kabbah's government and the rebels. An international settlement is essential because the regional states have a stake in the conflict that renders them less than impartial. The UN secretary-general, Kofi Annan, as convener, would give legitimacy and credibility to the proceedings.

The foundation for an international settlement of the Sierra Leone conflict is embodied in the Nov. 30, 1996, Abidian accords between the Kabbah government and the Of these scenarios, the first rebels. Though never impleseems unlikely. While the mented, the accords remain peacekeeping force continues valid and viable. Mr. Kabbah to constrain rebel operations, repeatedly has indicated his the American experience in readiness to implement the Vietnam suggests that wars accords, provided the rebels ternal supporters have to be

convinced that they cannot conquer Sierra Leone nor gain international legitimacy by force of arms. Conversely. participation in the peace pro-The Ahidjan accords incess will provide them with access to international funding for reconstruction and recovery tessentially what is in

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ernment armies and the opthe Abidjan accords). portunity for the rebels to Pressure must be exerted transform themselves into a on Charles Taylor, the prespolitical party eligible for the ident of Liberia, to cease military support for his rebel allies. Within an international While many in Sierra Leone will find it repugnant to conference, he would be givenvisage the rebel group en the opportunity to play the role of regional peacemaker. whose members have com-

mitted burnan rights abuses In sum, all participants against the population — as a need to be convinced of benpolitical player, the fact reefits not only for Sierra Leone mains that the rebels signed but also for themselves. At the Abidjan accords. The UN the same time, an enforcement mechanism has to be put vene an international conferin place to ensure that the ence on Sierra Leone that accords remain on track.

would include the Kabbah government and the rebels, While this may seem a great deal to demand from the key African participants, the Commonwealth (components international community, it is primarily a revival of the of the former British empire) Abidian accords on an international rather than regional and the permanent members basis. The increased role for The major objectives of the the UN mission will need orconference would be to (1) ganization and financing. secure a cease-fire and end

There is still time to save Sierra Leone. This proposal plementation of the Abidjan can work if implemented speedily. But if an effort the basis for the peace setalong these lines is not adopttlement, (3) strengthen and enlarge the UN civilian mised, one must fear the worst for the future of democracy in sion in Sierra Leone to assist Africa and the well-being of the government in providing the people of this beautiful essential services, (4) ensure but beleaguered country.

financial support for the continued presence of the peace-keeping force and (5) reach The writer, a farmer U.S. ambassadar to Sierra Leone. an agreement on the timing is vice president of the Interand modalities of the next national Peace Acodeny. He election, in which the rebels cantributed this comment to would be allowed to partic- The Washington Past.

Lewinsky's Moment in the Klieglight

WASHINGTON — For months it has been the story that had everything - illicit sex. domestic espionage, emotional ordeals - and Wednesday night came the interview that had everything: Monica Lewinsky, formet presidential gal pal, hunkering down with Barbara Walters on a

two-hour edition of ABC's "20/20." The bottom line is that those who watched the show probably came away more sympathetic to Ms. Lewinsky than they went in. But she also seemed at times inappropriately giggly, incorrigibly naive and awfully enamored of the limelight she claimed to detest.

Certainly the interview produced reams of snappy quotes. Is Ms. Lewinsky still in love with Bill Clinton?
"No," she said. She still admires him at times and wishes him well but 'sometimes I hate his guts and he makes me sick.'

And what of Linda Tripp, the informant who tricked Ms. Lewinsky into confessing the affair? "I piry her. I would hate to be her.

Ms. Walters asked plenty of tough questions. 'Toward the end of this relanonship, you were a real pain in the butt," Ms. Walters told Ms. Lewinsky, with Ms. Lewinsky replying. "You bet. You bet." Ms. Walters grilled her on the seeming insanity of preserving the blue dress with the presidential stain. and on failing to take into account the feelings of Mr. Clinton's wife (Ms. Lewinsky looked baffled by the im-plication she should have felt some homewrecker's guilt), and on this oft-discussed maner of whether oral sex constituted sexual relations.

Ms. Lewinsky said she considers oral sex "just messin' around" but also said she found sex with the pres-tdent "gratifying." Ms. Walters asked, "Did you ever ITy to have intercourse?" and Ms. Lewinsky smiled. 'Uh-huh," she said girlishly, then adBy Tom Shales

ded that she got "really upset" when Mr. Clinton said no.

Several times, both during the broadcast and the pre-show publicity. viewers were promised a "startling tevelation. This turned out to be that during the 10 months Ms. Lewinsky was unable to see the president for intimate encounters, she had an affair with another man, became pregnant. and had an abortion.

Well, perhaps that is a revelation, but after all we have heard in the past year, it was hard to be startled. The interview was taped in ABC

studios on a set made to look like a suite at the Bel Air Hotel, or some

MEANWHILE

other similarly classy joint. The camera came in for intense close-ups of Ms. Lewinsky and she held up well. Would she cry? We knew she would.

Ms. Walters and "20/20" saved it for near the show's end, Each commercial break was preceded by a "tease" featuring a clip from an upcoming segment. Just before one of the last breaks, the tease consisted of Ms. Lewinsky crying. When the commercial was over, Ms. Lewinsky got emotional (as if knowing it would disappoint Ms. Walters and the audience should her eyes remain dry and sobbed about the damage the scandal had done to her life.

She could not describe the night that Mrs. Tripp and some of Kenneth Starr's goons lured her to a hotel room and interrogated her without a lawyer present for 12 hours, Ms. Lewinsky said, because of an agreement she had made with Mr. Starr. But craftily. Ms. Walters read passages from the forthcoming Andrew Morton book in which Ms. Lewinsky did describe the nightmarish inquisition.

a British author, does not violate the agreement with Mr. Starr but talking to an American journalist would. When Mr. Walters asked Ms. Lewinsky what she thought of Mr. Starr, Ms. Lewinsks declined to comment. It is unlikey that she was trying to suppress the com-ment, 'Gee, what a wonderful guy.'

Ms. Lewinsky spoke of having considered suicide, but she seemed to be someone whose ego remained intact and perhaps only lightly bruised, even as she claimed "I don't have the feelings of self-worth that a woman should have." And after being shown a tape of Mr. Clinton denying having had sexual relations with that woman. she said she would have preferred it if Mr. Clinton had said. 'She's a great woman. She's a bright woman.

Many familiar details were discussed, from the thong underwear to the naughtiness with the cigar. It was perhaps fun in some twisted way to be embarrassed all over again by hearing it from Ms. Lewinsky's own lips. She would get on the phone and blab to girlfriends things like "he's so cute' when discussing the president, she said. and the first time she saw him in person she said her "breath was taken away."

Comics, meanwhile, could be expected to pounce on the opportunities for double entendre, as when Ms. Lewinsky referred to "the push and pull of this relationship" and said of her re-lationship to Mr. Climon, "You want so badly to hold onto this thing that you want." No one could have done a bener interview than Ms. Walters did, She saved a great kicker for the close, asking Ms. Lewinsky what she would tell her children about what had happened. Ms, Lewinsky's reply: "Mommy made a big mistake." Then, Ms. Walters appeared on camera to say, "And that is the understatement of the year."

The Washington Post



Hitchhikers on the information highway.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rwanda Genocide Court Replies

Regarding "In Genocide Court, a Geagraphy Bout" (Feb. 20): The article gave the impression that the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda

assigned to indigent accused persons, against their wishes, lawyers who do not speak the same language as they do. In fact, all detainees at the tribunal are assigned same-language counsel, except when they ask for a lawyer who speaks

another language, in which case, we assign an interpreter to help communication between the counsel and the defendant. In the case of Jean-Paul Akayesu, on two occasions be has requested lawyers who spoke only English.
Secondly, it is well-established in international law and in the law and practices of most countries, including Canada, the United States and France that an accused who can-

not afford a lawyer has a right to be assigned counsel but has no right to insist that a particular counsel be assigned to him free of charge under legal aid, as Mr. Akayesu has. Thirdly, the allegation that the "ban" (it is actually a temporary moratorium) on the assignment of Canadian and French lawyers was intended to force the hiring of African

lawyers is baseless. KINGSLEY MOGHALU. Arusha, Tanzania.

The writer is legal adviser and spokesperson for the International Criminal Tribunol for Rwanda.

U.S. Hypocrisy on Cyprus

Regarding "Clinton Lists Foreign Policy Challenges" for U.S." (Morch 1): It was comforting in a way to hear President Bill Clinton admit in his recent foreign policy that he had failed to make any progress on the question of Greek-Turkish relations.

The mistake of the United States lies in the fact that it ignores the occupation of northern Cyprus by Turkey. As long as northern Cyprus is occupied, there can be no solution to the rift among Greece, Turkey and Cyprus.

1 am sure it never occurred to President

Franklin Roosevelt during World War II to mediate between Germany and France, while Germany was occupying northern France.

Why do Greece's friends, allies and associates try to solve the clash among the three countries, while condoning the illegal military occupation of northern Cyprus?
T. L. CHRYSANTHOPOULOS Aeghinn, Greece.

The writer is a retired Greek ambassadar. Iraq and the War Powers Act

Does the War Powers Act become applicable to the U.S. bombing raids in Iraq that began last year? How can it be that the merits of such actions are not yet subject to debate and oversight by Congress?

THOMAS MORE.

Americans and Intellectuals

Regarding "In Americo, Intellectuals Are Suspect" (Opinion, March 3) by Bruce J.

I could not agree more with Mr. Schulman's excellent article. Thus, it is most irksome that he attributes the saying, "Without vision, the people perisb to Franklin Roosevelt. It is, in fact, derived from the Bible (Proverbs 29, verse 18), which says: "Where there is no prophecy, the people cast off restraint." Perhaps more thorough scholarship is needed in American academia to command the respect of the "ordinary citizen." BILL BUCHMAN.

Lyngby, Denmark.

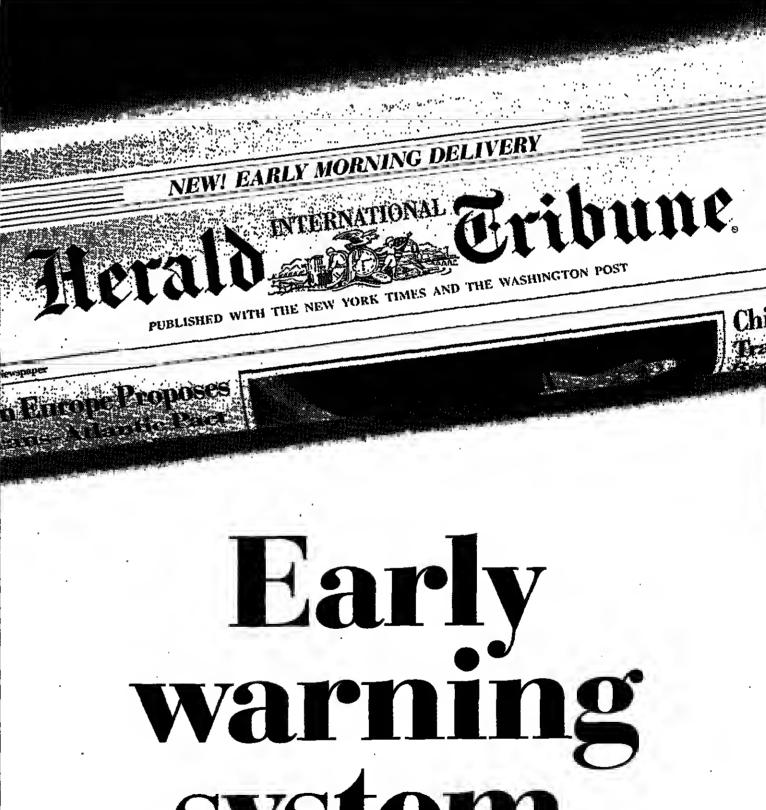
New Strides in Tdiocy'

Regarding "Professor Bors Men From Feminist Class" (Feb. 27):

As one who went to his first school in Switzerland instead of Germany, the land of my birth; as one who was considered a dirty German in my third-grade school in Paris and as one who saw generations of black children my age not go to school in South Africa . I consider myself well-schooled in

the idiocies of inter-buman relationships. I must confess, however, that Mary Daly. the feminist philosopher at Boston College, has managed to be more creative in this field than I thought possible.

PETER HIRSCHMANN. Haifa, Israel



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Months of the second of the se

In an Austrian Valley, a Healthy Respect for the Snow

By Eric Pfanner

CHRUNS, Austria — Unril deadly avalanches roared down mountainsides in the Tirol last month, many people's vision of snow in the Alps probably resembled the idyllic pictures on souvenir chocolate

But residents of the Alps have always been ambivalent about the snow, knowing that what hrings beauty and tourists can also, occasionally, bring death in

their ancient valleys.

In the nearby Montafon valley of westernmost Austria, the farmers have since pagan times gathered around bonfires on Suoday nights in February to burn the winter witch in effigy.

The sooner the snow melts away, the sooner they can herd their cattle up to the high-mountain pastures for another brief summer, before the snow and the threat of avalanches return for another season.

Like other Alpine regions, the Montafon has turned to tourism, drawing swarms of skiers to its slopes, some of the most extensive in Austria. But the stubborn villagers continue the colorful ritual bumings, called Funkenbrennen, and the persistence of such traditions sets the Montafon apart from many other resort areas of the Alps where ancient customs have been driven out in the rush to embrace the ways of well-heeled visitors.

Indeed, this balance makes the Montafon a good place to enjoy the Austrian notion that a ski vacation should also across two broad ridges between the small include healthy portions of tradition, re-laxation and the local cheese.

Since the avalanches struck, many skiers have been canceling plans to visit Austria, leaving resorts strangely empty at what is normally the busiest time of year. I visited the Montafon this January, long before the huge February snowstorms that proved so deadly. As I arrived, sunlight flooded the cohhlestoned main square of Schruns, the largest town in the valley, giving it an almost Mediterranean feel. Somberly dressed churchgoers, not skiers, ambled through the streets.

But as I rode the aerial tramway to the Hochjoch, a ski area that looms above Schruns — passing through evergreen forests, across the timberline and finally over a vast open slope crisscrossed by avalanche-cootrol fences --- the climate changed to winter and the views grew more and more spectacular.

To the south, a range of snow-packed 3,000-meter (10,000-foot) peaks, the Silvretta, reclined in the sun along the Swiss and Italian borders. To the west, the craggier peaks along the border with Liechtenstein reared up. To the north, the green pastures of the Montafon opened up to the Rhine valley, which stretched to

the foggy horizon over Lake Constance.
On the slopes of the Hochjoch, the remnants of a two-day-old snowfall still allowed for easy cruising on the mostly long, gentle slopes, the kind of skiing that will not upset a stomach full of Wiener schnitzel.

The Hochjoch is only one of four main ski areas in the Montafon valley, with a total of 69 lifts covered on one ticket and 200 kilometers (125 miles) of runs.

In Vandans, across the valley from Schruns, is Golm, the site of a World Cup women's downhill race course. Here the skiing is mostly on long intermediate runs, starting above the timberline but ending amid the evergreens.

In Gargellen, a hotel hamlet about 15

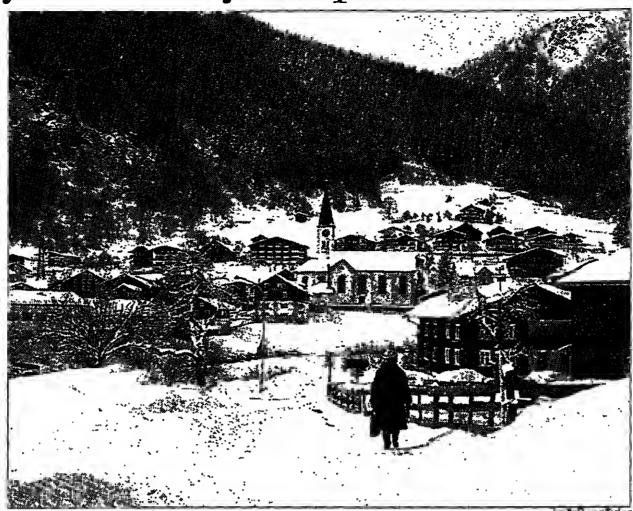
kilometers up a narrow side valley from Schruns, is the Schafberg area, with mostly gentle runs above the tree line. (The relatively high elevation of Gargel-len — more than 1,400 meters, compared with 700 meters for Schruns - makes avalanches more of a concern here. Two people were killed in February when a snowslide buried a nearby restaurant.) For the next day's skiing, I chose the largest and best of the four Montafon ski areas - Silvretta Nova, which sprawls

towns of Gaschum and St. Gallenkirch. A gondola rises from each town. The top stations, at nearly 2,300 meters, are separated by a wide, skiable gully. In between there are more than 100 kiit easy to get from one end of the area to the other in an hour or so, yo-yoing among the 28 lifts.

The skiing is primarily rated beginner or intermediate, though I found a handflank the ridges, different parts of the Silvretta Nova were in the sun led up different mountain valleys to the throughout the day. A 14-kilometer run. high mountain country," Hemingway one of the longest in Austria, leads back down to St. Gallenkirch across summer grazing pastures.

The Silvretta Nova seemed to be a good place for groups of skiers with mixed abilities. It appeared to be a popular family destination, too.

The valley hustles with skiers, but



lometers of marked runs, though I found The small town of Gaschurn horders the Silvretta Nova ski area, which is the largest in the Montafon valley.

ago was its quiet, rustic side, wrote in "A Moveable Feast," describing the winters he spent there. "You climbed on foot carrying your skis and higher up, where the snow was too deep, you climbed on sealskins that you at-

what drew one celebrated American vis-itor to the Montafon more than 70 years

Sun Also Rises" in Schruns during the beer for a hand of Jassen, a card game winter of 1925-26—he stayed at the that uses a deck in which the four suits Hotel Taube, a solid-looking establish-There were no ski-lifts from ment where little seems to have changed ful of expert runs, too. Because the runs Schruns and no funiculars, but there except for the addition of a plaque commemorating his visit.

> THE OLD EUROPE Much of Schruns is like that. The new Europe - hotels where the cable TV systems carry channels in six languages, where the bellboys speak three and the guests use English has been slow to encroach.

are hearts, shells, acorns and leaves - no clubs, diamonds or spades. And the church, with an onion dome on top of its steeple, seems to be more than just a convenient backdrop for postcards.

The regional dialect has also been

well preserved. Though nominally German, it sounds little like the language heard in Frankfurt or Vienna.

The sounds of the Montafon owe much to the centuries-long regional dominance tached to the bottoms of the skis."

Near the ceoter, a factory still turns of Rhaeto-Romanic, a group of closely

When Hemingway was in town—
between ski excursions he rewrote "The In every bar in town, the men gather over in pockets of the nearby Engadine valley" for The New York Times.

in Switzerland and in northern Italy.

Germanic peoples were actually lateconters to the Montafon. The valley was
settled in pre-Christian times by Celtic and East European tribes, later joined by Roman settlers. The blending of their languages into Rhaeto-Romanic is still reflected in the non-German-sounding place names, like Vandans and Garfrescha, that dot the valley. Montafon itself is said to be derived from the words for "mountain" and "valley" in Physic Population.

Rhaeto-Romanic. While in more recent years fortunes have ebbed and flowed with the influx of industries like mining, hydroelectric power generation and, most recently. tourism, the economy has always been hased on agriculture and Montason cows, an indigenous breed.

HAT can be seen in the cuisine. The pungeot Montason cheese, similar to Gruyere in texture, is available fried, melted or just plain. Most often, though, it is served as a topping for Kaesspatzle, freshly boiled dumplings that are also covered with fried onions.

Though the choice of restaurants seemed a bit limited in Schruns, at least outside the hotels, that was not the case at the ski areas themselves, where eating

and drinking appeared to rank with ski-ing as the favorite on-slope activities. There are hasic cafeterias serving soups, salads and Kaesspatzle, and fullservice restaurants offering trout, game and, yes, Kaessparzle. One restaurant halfway up the Silvretta Nova specializes in Bavarian dishes, catering to the German visitors who flock to the Monrafon on weekends. I never had trouble finding the local brew, Fohrenburger. When I took a break for lunch on the

outdoor terrace at the top of the Silvretta Nova, the bar was already filling up. In one corner a mustachioed DJ announced the next song from a gondola cabin that had been converted into his sound booth. Skiers with rainbow patterns on their jackets tapped their boots in time with the music. This was Austrian rock, and that meant that accordions laid the foundatioo. In time with the compahs, the singer began in heavy dialect. "Das Skifohren ist das leivontste" - loosely translated, "Skiing is totally awesome. He got no argument

Eric Pfanner, an editor at The International Herold Tribune, wrote this



A Warm Paris Bistro Offers Soothing Fare

By Patricia Wells ional Herald Tribune

over to Chez Catherine, a most classic 1930s bistro, where the welcome is warm, the food is satisfying and the wine list is sure to cheer on the grayest of Parisian days.
The chef is Catherine Guerraz, a

taurant family in France's southwest. Along with her gende, outgoing husband, Frederic, she runs a fine traditional restaurant, with a colorful copper bar and walls filled with Art Deco mirrors, colorful patchwork rile floors and bric-a-brac.

On my most recent visit, I feasted freshest versions of sole meuniere, a giant whole sole dusted with flour and browned in sweet butter. Priced at 125 francs, this is a bargain worth the detour on its own.

But don't stop there: Try the steaming platter of warming pasta, tiny ravioles bathed in cream, tossed with mushrooms and a touch of crisp ba-

here prepared with soothing white to \$42).

beans, chunks of sausage and earthy portions of duck confit.

Lovers of the tiny fish known as ARIS — Lovers of those eperions, or smelt, will happily de-old-fashioned Parisian fam-vour the gargantuan platter of ily bistros should rush right deep-fried fish that arrives hot from the kitchen, needing no more than a sprinkling of fine sea salt and a few drops of freshly squeezed lemon juice. I loved, as well, the soothing rabbit terrine, or compote de lopin, compact, full-flavored and fresh.

Situated on a drah little street lost ndy young woman raised in a res- behind the Galeries Lafayette department store. Chez Catherine caters to a well-heeled and cheery French clientele. They happily chat across tables, advising newcomers on what's best on the compact menu.

The wine list is brief, with some reds and whites worth discovering: Try the 1996 Cotes du Rhone Chateau on what is one of the city's best and d'Hugues, a ruby-red blend that's well priced at 145 francs a bottle. We did not order the double-thick

pan-fried steak served with its mind-boggling mountain of fries, but it is on my list for the oexi dinner at Chez Catherine, which will be very soon.

Che: Cotherine, 65 rue de Provence, Paris 9; tel: 01-45-26-72-88. Credit nushrooms and a touch of crisp baton.

Equally excellent is her cassoulet,

and the content of the content of

Discovering Iran: A Cultural Adventure

By Elaine Sciolino New York Times Service

EHRAN — The group of female American tourists danced a crowd-stopping dance of the veil. Outside the vast shrine in the center of Meshed, Iran, the womeo struggled with their chadors, shroud-like garments that cover all hut the face and must be secured with one hand held under the chin. There are no hooks or zippers to make the joh easier.

It was not enough that we were already wearing scarves oo our heads and loose garments that hid the shape of our torsos. This was the holiest pilgrimage site in Iran, the place where Imam Reza, the eighth of the 12 imams, or religious leaders, in Shiite Islam, died in the ninth century and is buried. Even though the shrine itself was off limits to non-Muslims, we were allowed to walk through the outer courtyard, watch an informational film at a foreign reception center and tour the museums on the vast compound. But only if we disguised ourselves in the veils that our guide handed out as we emerged from our hus.

Iranian schoolchildren giggled at the sight. A grizzled Iranian man asked to have his picture taken with us. One of the men in our group threw his sport coat over his head and jumped into the picture.

Even I, who have been going to Iran as a journalist for 20 years, have never gotten used to this unwieldy garment, which lets me take notes only if I hold it together in my teeth.

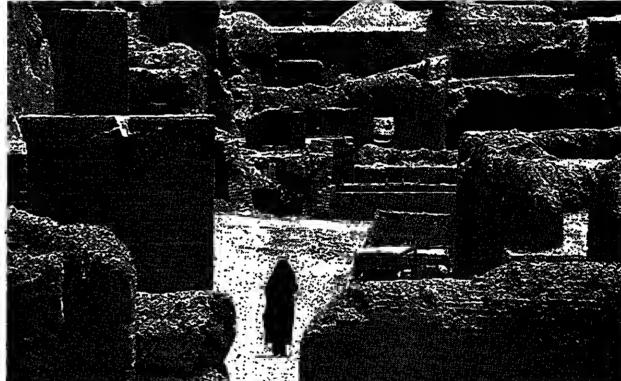
In the early years of Iran's revolutionary regime, which took power in — were considered dangerous invaders ovared and function fairly well. _____ Western culture.

These days, American tourists are no longer considered as ugly as they once were. Iran's regime is beginning to smile back, luring them with its treasures: the monumental ruins of ancient Persia, the intricately panemed mosques of Islam, the glittering palaces of the shahs, the landscapes of snowcapped mountains and rice paddies and palm-studded deserts. For about two years, intrepid Americans have ventured in, most of them on group tours organized by U.S. and Canadian companies, but some on customized private visits.

My 18 traveling companions were intrepid, well traveled and well prepared. Our 14-day journey took us through Tehran, Meshed, Kerman-shahan, Hamadan, Kerman, Bam, Yazd, Shiraz, Persepolis, Esfahan, Kashan and Oum. We were free to go wherever we wanted and, except for military installations, airports, mosque interiors and some museums, took photographs as we

Our guide was a retired teacher who could not quite support himself and his wife on his small pension.

Our tour was run by Bestway Tours and Safaris, of Vancouver. British Columbia, although several of us who had booked through Absolute Asia, a New York-based company, did oot know that until we arrived. We also discovered only \$2,790 for their trip, excluding air case of one tour member, there were Bagh-e Eram in Shiraz, a sprawling puberaries,



A visitor in a chador walking through the ancient streets of Bam, a mud and brick citadel in southeastern Iran

fare; we had paid Absolute Asia \$3,125. Iran's tourist infrastructure functions surprisingly well, considering how few high-paying tourists have ventured in over the last two decades. The hotels built during the 1970s oil boom have 1979, tourists -- particularly Americans seen better days, but have been reo-

TOURIST INFRASTRUCTURE

Domestic air travel is cheap, remarkahly safe and on time. Pharmacies are well stocked. Persian cuisine is a delight (when one can get away from the uniquitous kabobs); fresh fruits and vegetables are grown throughout the country, and in Tehran the tap water is considered better than the bottled variety.

But our tour bus was in need of repair and cleaning. The air-conditioning blew hard through the holes where overhead lights should have been. There were oo seat belts and no toilet. The choking air pollution from leaded gasoline fumes can be troubling for people with res-piratory problems, particularly in the big cities such as Tehran and Esfahan.

Except at the mosques, the women in our group took risks with their dress almost from the start. Our guide made the mistake of telling us at our first orientation that we did not have to wear the poorly sewn, ankie-length polyester coats handed out at the beginning of the tour. So some women donned their husbands' shirts over pants and exchanged their scarves for hats. It was unseasonably hot, so we even dared to go bareheaded on the bus, which elicited wide-

eyed stares (but no arrests). Bending the rules did not extend to alcohol. When security guards at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport discovered that Bestway had charged tour members several tiny bottles of liquor in the suit-

threats to confiscate our luggage, hold lic garden filled with 200-year-old up our departure and even try the alleged culprit in an Iranian court. Eventually, sour cherry trees, musk roses, coxcombi the security guard and airport police and honeysuckle. were paid off.

Throughout the trip, the official animosity toward the U.S. government contrasted sharply with the shock and sheer joy of ordinary Iranians in encountering Americans who liked Iran

well enough to come touring.

What makes it especially difficult to penetrate the country is that Iranians operate in two worlds. Behavior is much more relaxed in the privacy of one's home, where even the most devout Muslim women remove their head coverings. And in secular families, one may even be offered a shot of bootleg vodka or a glass of homemade wine. For the most part, our group operated in a par-

allel universe, seeing the externals. But there were moments of discovery. many of them dishearteoing. One woman in our group said that Iran would be a great place to take a bike trek, but then learned that men and women must ride bikes on segregated tracks. A man gave a young Iranian woman friend of mine a good-bye hog in front of our botel in Shiraz, and she recoiled in fear. Men and women who are not close relatives are

not even sopposed to shake hands. The American women were incensed that Iranian women have to ride in the back of the bus. And then there was the incideot of the restaurant toilets in Shiraz. The men's was a familiar Westem, chair-like model; the women's was, as in most places, a porcelain hole in the ground that required squatting.

But in spite of all the restrictions, the

magic of Iran took over.
We sought refuge from the stares and

smog on the footpaths of the enormous

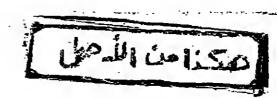
We soaked in the view of palm groves ; in the desert from the top of the medieval mud-walled citadel and town at Barn. then sipped mango juice at a charming teahouse there run by an Iranian woman who beckoned with the words, "We are

waiting for you."
We left the world of Shille Islam far behind in Hamadan at a mausoleum with a hasket of yarmulkes at the entrance and a wall engraved with the Ten Commandments in Hebrew.

We discovered a wedding reception ar our hotel one evening in Shiraz and veotured in for a peek. The sister of the bride introduced us around to the other women, dressed in fancy cocktain dresses, their hair lacquered, their faces beautifully made up. They danced in a conga line led by the bride. The men, meanwhile, were banished to a separare room, just as at an Orthodox Jewish

BEAUTY OF PERSEPOLIS But it was Persepolis, the seat of Persia's ancient. kings and Iran's most important archaet ological treasure, that awed the Americans. Walking through the vast remains of the palace started in the sixth century B.C. by Darius the Great reduced our garrulous group to few words.

It is hard to go it alone as a tourist in Iran. Technically, tourists must be invited by the Iranian government. A number of U.S. companies provide organized tours and can facilitate the visapplication process. It is probably safet traveling with a tour operator known to Iranian authorities. Inventive travelers can add on their own personalized itin-



CAR COLUMN

For Steel-in-Style, the Audi TT

By Gavin Green

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HO makes the best car in the world? Ask 20 top engineers and designers and you'll probably get 15 different answers. But ask the same people to list the manufacturer who currently makes the world's most beautiful cars which I did at a recent motor show and there will be surprising unanimity.

Most will say they love the new Alfa 156, they think Chrysler's concept cars are far-sighted and brave and BMWs have an elegant consistency. But the loveliest cars in the world are curreotly made by Audi.

Great style has become the key to Audi's success. Thanks to their progressive shapes. Audis are now willfully aimed at architects, desigoers and the visually avant-garde. Mercedes has its class and heritage; BMW may still be the ultimate driving machine. But if you want style-in-steel (or sometimes, in aluminum), you've got to get into an

It's a strategy that has clearly worked. Last year in Europe, the Audi A4 easily outsold the rival Mercedes Cclass, while the Audi A6 enjoyed a 42 diverse this common platform strategy percent sales jump, to finish close behind the BMW 5-series and the Mercedes E-class, and well ahead of rival Audi A3 and the Seat Toledo. Wolvos and Saabs.

The artistic armor is all the more SMOOTH EXECUTION important when you realize that, behind the coach-building couture, Audis are mostly just souped-up Volkswagens. They are testament to the cost-controlling genius of the "common platform' strategy, which Volkswagen oow rides well. It steers with a sharpoess and masters more than any other carmaker. In a nutshell, the idea is to make a vast number of near-ideotical mechanical platforms. And then clothe them in as many visually distinct body styles as the get about the family-car roots. Much market dictates. Presto! A large and inexpensively cooceived car range is

the most eye-catching car of the past few formance than the substantially more mooths, is the perfect example. It is a expensive Porsche Boxster. two-door, low-slung, ground-hogging, high-speed sports car. Yet take away that the ooise. Sports cars should sereoade gorgeous yet highly individualistic with their exhaust music, as well as shell, and guess what lies underneath? A stimulate with their performance. The

Solo" (Dreyfus): The final album by the

late Freech pianist, oo stage in Frankfurt.

He was at his best when there was

Very few improvisers could combine

technique with soul, respect for tradition

with a sense of adventure, commerci-

ality with purity and humor with gravitas

quite like him. From "Besame Mucho,"

to "Caravan," and bis own "Little Piece in C for U" and "Chloe Meets

Gersbwin," be is eclectically eccentric,

in the slot, harmonically ricb. History

Wheels on a Gravel Road" (Mercury):

The producer Joe Boyd calls this album

And Williams's voice has been de-

pribed as a "mixture of boney and

ourboo." Country music meets the

blites. She composed most of the songs

- two of them are "Drunkeo Angel,

By Alan Truscott

HETHER an expert can perform at a high

level if the demands of work

and family force him or her to

severely limit appearances at

the card table is debatable.

One who clearly can is Greg

Woods of Westport, Con-

necticut, an options trader

whose team won the Tri-State

Regional Knockout Team title

in Port Chester. New York.

He and two teammates, Gene

title last year, and this

year his other teammates were

Alex Alleo, Abe Pineles and

Richard De Martino.

'Blonde on Blonde' of the '90s."

will treat him well.



Volkswagen Golf. Oh yes, its engine is TT sounds about as sexy as a didgeridoo. turbocharged (as it is in the Golf GTi), Instead of an oplifting growl, there's a the suspension is firmer, and a fourwheel-drive transmission parcels out the power to all four corners of the car. But in terms of major hardware, the Audi TT is a Golf-in-drag. To prove just how

Eveo more impressive than the lineage does not seriously compromise the TT in any way. It handles superbly. It precision that is better than most BMWs. The grip, aided by the quattro four-wbeel-drive transmission, is especially impressive. So is the performance. Forwork has gone into the (once) humble 1.8-liter four-cylinder eogine, iocluding five-valve beads and the turbocharger, The oew Audi TT, widely lauded as and the upshot is substantially more per-

"Concrete and Barbed Wire," a good

description of the blue look of the coun-

try she occupies. And the first two lines

anymore/ 'Cause you took my joy.'

(Verve): Probably the most important

virtuoso in the history of the trombooe

since it evolved from the sackbut. John-

son, 74, says that this is his last recording before retirement. He bas never sounded

self on a two-trombooe line reminiscent

RECORDINGS

nobody between him and the audience. of "Joy" go like this: "I don't want you

MICHEL PETRUCCIANI, "Live which is kind of whal she sings like, and

hero here.

three-heart bid when East

raised spades over a take-out

double. This was not as risky

as it might appear, sioce

North was known to be short

in spades and a crossruff was

captured East's queen with the ace, throwing a diamond from dummy. A diamond was

led to the ace and a diamond

was ruffed. South oexi led the

heart jack, and East took his

ace and returned a trump, won

nine, 10 and jack were played.

Now South had to locate the

The final was a cliffhanger. club ace. If East held lowing an overtrick that on the diagramed deal, Saxe ace-queen there was no hope, proved to be crucial when the

A low club was led, and the

A spade was led, and South

South,

Woods, and

predictable.

in dummy.

demotivating drone.

حكذامث الأحل

The best part of the car is the style. though. Its rounded, armadillo-like shape is hugely unconventional and incredibly brave. Yet it works. Like all Audis, the surface work is clean and taut, and the body is a homogenous whole rather than a series of disjointed

And it isn't just the exterior, either. The interior, the part of the car that designers traditionally ignore and yet where customers spend the most time, is concept is the execution. The family car novel, beautiful and uplifting. The plastics are of superb quality, and aluminum rings the instruments and laces other parts of the cabin, including the pedals. Neat touches include the aluminum bezels around the vents, which rotate to alter air flow.

A big aluminum brace in the center console increases the modern, metallic feel of the cockpit. It's a refreshing change from that outdated Edwardian leftover - wood - which tradition, rather than common sense, says should be used in luxury cars, i Everyone knows that the only two makers in the world that can properly craft wood, in car cab-ins, are Rolls-Royce and Jaguar.) The only weak points in the cabin are the rear chairs. They are hopelessly small and cramped, even by sports car standards. At least they fold forward to boost lug-

gage space.
You doo't buy an Audi TT for the back seat or the trunk. Instead you buy it to drive, and to look at. It scores spectacularly well on both fronts. It is a car of style and substance, And is further evidence of Audi's spectacular progress in the '90s. When the decade is over, and the trophies are handed out, Audi not only wants to be remembered as the style master of the fin-de-steele. It also deserves to be regarded as "most im-proved" carmaker of the period. For the new millennium, its ambitions are even

Sborter. Oo another, be overdubs him- engine, four-wheel drive. Maximum speed: 230 kph (143 mph). Acceleration: of Jay and Kai. The "beroes" of the title 0-100 kph in 6.3 seconds. Average fuel are the creators of modern jazz, but consumption: 9.8 liters/I00 km.

Next: The Jaguar S-type

KJ972

partnering and be would not have played Woods team won the match

The significant positions, therefore, were those in which East began with a

doubleton ace-nine or

queen-nine. Saxe decided that

the laner was uolikely, for if

West held the ace he would

probably have persevered

with three spades over three

hearts. At his next opportu-

mity therefore, after ruffing a

spade lead in the dummy, he

played another low club and

made his game when the ace

began similarly but South

passed over two spades. The

defense slipped slightly, al-

In the replay the bidding

popped up.

the nine if he held the four. and the title by one imp.

Gavin Green is editor in chief of Car Mike Zwerin/IHT magazine.

∇ K Q 9 6 5

SOUTH

West 1 4 Pass

Pass

◆ A 10 4 3 ♥ J 10 4 2

€ 4 ♣ 10 7 6 2

South Pass

Pass

- EAST(D)

0 K9865

4 A 9

♦ A J 10 3 ♣ K 8 5 3

there's no doubt about who's the real

BRIDGE

ventured a

ARTS GUIDE

BRITAIN

European Academy for the Arts & Accademia Italiana, tel (171) 235-0303, closed Mondays. To March 28, "The Shadow of the Night: Etruscan Splendours From Volterran Tuscany Ancient bronze artifacts from the mysterious Etruscan civilization (7th to 2d

century B.C. i. National Gallery, tel: :171; 747-2865, open daily To May 23 "Orazio Gentileschi at the Court of Charles I The Italian painter 1563-1639) became coun painter Caravaggism that appealed to the Italianate tastes of the Squart

www.natronalgaliery.org.uk Royal Academy of Arts, let. (171) 300-8000, open daily. Continu-ing/To April 11 "Monet in the 20th Century." Features 80 paintings completed in the final occades of

the artist stife. www.royalacademy.org.uk

CHINA

Palace of Fine Arts, closed Mon-days. To March 16: 'Zao Wou-Ki: Sixty Years of Painting." Abstract oils by the Chinese-bom pairtier reflecting European and Chinese influences. The exhibition will πavel to Guangzhou.

FRANCE

Maison de la Culture du Japon a Paris, tel: 01-44-37-95-01. closed Sundays and Mondays. To March 13: "L'Enfant et i Ukiyo-e." The artists of the ukiyo-e movement layored daily scenes in which children often appeared. More than 160 works by Herunobu Hiroshige, Kuniyoshi and Utamarc and other artists of the Edo and Meni periods are disclayed.

Musee d'Orsay. tel: 01-40-43-48-14, closed Mondays, To June 6, Edward Burne-Jones: Un Marre Anglais de l'Imaginaire.' More than 150 oil paintings, watercolors and drawings as well as tapestres, stained glass, bles, painted furniture and jewelry that reflect the romants, medieval subject matter that suf-lused the British artist's work

Deichtorhalten, (el. (40) 32-10-30, closed Mondays. To May 9: "Marc Chagail: Aus dem Grafischen Werk." A selection of lithographic works from the Russian artist: The mes are drawn from memories of

GERMANY

The Thyssen-Bornemisza collection ends its tour of Japan: Childe Hassam's "Fifth Avenue" is in the show.

Jewish culture and traditions.

HONGKONG

Hong Kong Museum of Art, in Kowloon, lei: [852] 2734-2167, c'oseg Thursdays. To April 11: The Cobra Movement: 50 Years On Ican from the Cobra Museum for Modern Art in Amstelveen, The Netherlands, a selection of works created by Alechinsky, Appel and Comeille, in the 1940s and '50s

men-Thyssen-Bomemisza Collection." On loan from the Madrid col-lection, more than 90 European and American paintings, dating from the 18th century to the early 1900s.

s youth in Vitebsk, a lown nch in 38-22-11-11, closed Mondays, To

NETHERLANDS www.usd.gov.hk/hkma

JAPAN

Miyagi Museum of Art, tel: (022) 221-2111. Continuing/ To March 14: "Masterworks From the Car-

March 28: "Liberty Leading the People." As part of the exchange of artistic national freasures between

France and Japan. Delacroix's allegory, "La Liberie Guidant le Peuple," inspired by the French July Revolution of 1830 is on snow. www.tom.go.jp

Rijksmuseum, Iel: (20) 673-2121, open daily. To March 14: "Asser: Pioneer of Dutch Photography." An exhibition devoted to the early days of Duich photography, with a selection of works by Eduard Isaac Asser (1809-1894).

SWEDEN

STOCKHOLM

Moderna Museet, tel: (8) 5195-5200, closed Mondays, To May 24: "Alexander Rodchenko, 1891-1956," Paintings, sculptures, draw-Tokyo National Museum, tel: (3) ings, collages photography trace the Russian artist's career from his

ant-garde to the marginalization of his art under Stalin's dictaiorship. www.modemamuseel.se

EWITZERLAND

Fondation de l'Hermitage, tel: (21) 320-50-01. closed Mondays. Continuing/ To May 24: L'Age d'Or de l'Aquarelle Anglaise. 1770-1901." A survey of British watercolors and their interpretation of landscapes and still lites, from Paul Sandby (1731-1809) to Turner. Bonington and the Victorian watercolonsis.

Zurich

Museum Rielberg, 1el: (1) 202-45-28. closed Mondays To May 16: "Geneme Visioner." An exhibition of Tibetan rankas, dating from the 11th to the mid-15th century, showing their complex rela-lionship with Buddhist cultures in Tibel, India and Nepal.

www.rietberg.ch UNITED STATES

McMullen Museum of Art, tel: (617) 552-8100, closed Salurdays

(617) 552-6100, closed Salurcays and Sundays. To May 24: "Saints and Sinners: Caravaggio and the Baroque Image" A display of 17th-century religious paintings, focusing around Caravaggio's recently rediscovered "The Taking of Caravaggio's recently rediscovered "The Taking of Caravaggio's research to the Taking of Caravaggio and the Baroque Image of the Taking of Caravaggio and the Baroque Image of the Baroque Image Christ." Among the works are canvases by Reni. Domanichino. Strezzi and Carracci.

SAN FRANCISCO

Catifornia Palace of the Legion of Honor, let (415) 750-3614, closed Mondays To May 9: "A Grand Design: The Art of the Vic-tona and Albert Museum." On loan from the London museum of decorative arts, 250 objects spanning 2.000 years, including Leonardo's visionary notebooks; 15th-century Flemish silver; paintings by Constable and sculptures by Cellini end Pisano, Chinese and Korean eramics, and Sevres porcelain. www.thinker.org

CLOSING SOON

March 7: "Goya: Unique and an Arust of His Time." National Mueum of Weslern Art. Tokvo.

Europe March 7. "Robert Rauschenberg: A Retrospective." Guggenhe Museum, Bilbao, Spain. March 7: "Jean Fauther: Paintings, Sculptures. Works on Paper. Moderna Museel, Stockholm.

Compiled by Elisabeth Hopkins

BOOKS

MR. DARWIN'S SHOOTER By Roger McDonald, 365 pages, \$25.

Atlantic Monthly Press. Reviewed by Richard Bernstein

SCATTERED here and there in the copious, diaries and letters of

Charles Darwin are mentions of a certain Syms Covington. "My servant," Darbetter — firm as ever though amazingly youthful. One track presents seven choice minutes of acoustic Wayne Shorter. Oo another, be overdubs him-

Covington, who was born to a laboring family in Bedford, England, and died in Australia not long after the publication of Darwin's "Origin of Species" in 1859, is the inspiration for Roger McDonald's new novel, a high-spirited, adventure-some, idiosyneratic ramble through the history of science that certainly captures the "oddity" that Darwin spoke of.

"Mr. Darwin's Shooter" is, in other words, a fictionalized biography of a figure about whom the available historical documentation would probably not permit a full-scale nonfiction treatthat Covington spent with Darwin in South America during the famed voyage of the Beagle in the 1830s.

The Covington of McDonald's novel

collected specimens for Darwin. He roamed Patagonia and other places in search of animals and birds, and along the later Covington and the youthful one of way he got involved in Indiana Jones-like the Darwin years, with both periods well scrapes and romances: Indiana Jones grouoded in historical detail. We ex-

with a briny 19th-century flavor and a lack of scholarly understanding. The Covington of "Mr. Darwin's

Shooter" is distinguished by an understandable failure to realize that he is working for one of the greatest scientific thinkers of his century. As McDooald shapes Covington's

semt-imaginary life, he rubs up against the Big Questions that Darwin's theory raised, expressed by McDonald in an earthily poetic vernacular.

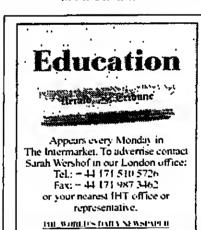
bling over the "black lava hand sizzled bere with one thing, there the need to assert his self-respect. with another, and the chambers of his gallery were infinite in their on-going.

Darwin is a powerful figure who fills up the background space of McDonald's book, but it is the rough-and-tumble. querulous figure of Covington who dominates the foreground. We first meet him as a teenager in Bedford in 1828, leaving home in the company of a kind of seagoing, bom-again Congregationment. At the heart of McDooald's book alist named John Phipps. Later we see is a picaresque novelization of the years him near the end of his life. living as a prosperous agricultural entrepreneur in Australia, raising a brood of children and anxiously awaiting a copy of "Origin of Species," wondering if he will be men-

tioned in the acknowledgments. McDonald alternates between the perience Covington as a member of a family of horse butchers in England. then follow him on board ships to South America in the company of the evangelizing Phipps, and in his job as bird-shooter in Argentina, where he explains to his paramour the method of skinning a winged specimen so that the feathers remain undisturbed.

Covington's relationship with Darwin is cleverly imagined, seen mostly from Covington's point of view, but always conically marinated in the deep difthe Galapagos Islands, where "the most ferences between the two men: one an old-fashioned antediluvian animals" can advantaged, understated gentus, the othbe found, Darwin and Covington are star- er a coarser, more desperate figure tled by what they see: "proof that God's caught between the need to please and

New York Times Service



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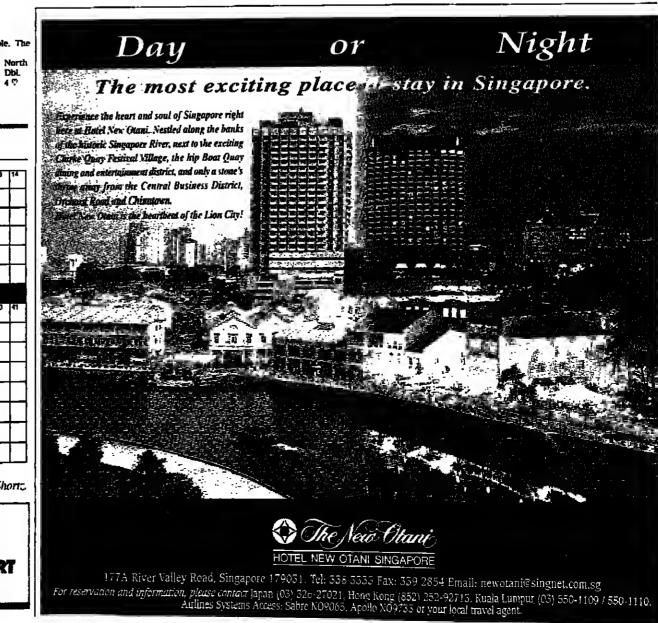
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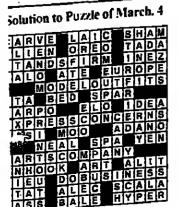
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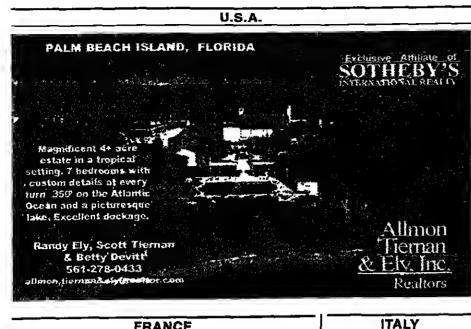
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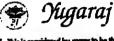
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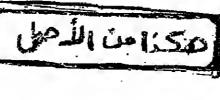




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Ambassador cars coming off an assembly line in Uttarpara, India.

End of Road for an Icon?

By Barry Bearak

New York Times Service

UTTARPARA, India - Streets in India are an extraordinary sight for two reasons: the cows that wander sacredly and indifferently through traffic and the antiquated-looking antomobile with a bowler hat of a roof called the Am-

Little in the look of the car has changed during its 41 years on the road. The Ambassador is part icon, part While the Ambassador, now priced at curio, a beast of an automobile that around \$8,000, always has been an easy easily seats seven, stands high off the ground and usually offers a ride with all the smoothness of an earthquake.

Uotil the early 1980s, almost every makes a ooise except the horn. car sold in India was an Ambassador; and for its manufacturer, Hindustan Motors Ltd., this was clearly too much of a good thing. Near-monopoly con-ditions led to lingering corporate som-

Now, with India's economy more open and foreign automakers joining anywhere near its current 11,000 workup with local partners, sales of the ers, but, in India, employees are not 'Amby" have fallen to a 5 percent easily shed. niche in a crowded market. At the same time, after finally modernizing production, the company finds itself with too

New Cars Overtake India's Venerable 'Amby'

with its unions. "The Ambassador is in a fight for its survival," said Prabal Chatterjee, the senior vice president in charge of the factory here in Uttarpara, just corthwest of Calcutta.

many workers and a prickly dispute

Auto sales in India, though modest, have more than doobled during the past decade, with the 1998 total at 403,000. But drivers prefer vehicles that are smaller, sleeker and made far better. car to keep running, it is oot known as a car that runs particularly well. A standms joke is that everything in the auto

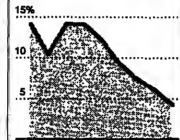
Last year, the company finally responded with \$20 million of improvements for the Uttarpara factory, but the plant was so badly outdated that some of the newly installed equipment was as basic as conveyor belts. The assembly line no looger needs

'We could make the car with 800 to

See CARS, Page 12

Until the 1980s, tha Ambassador, mada by Hindustan Motors and unchanged for four decades, monopolized India's car market, but now it is dominated by Maruti Udyog, a joint venture between Suzuki and the government.

Ambassador market share In India



'90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97

Cars made in India TOTAL 401,000 CARS



Sources: Association of Indian Auto Manufacturers; Hindustan Motors NYT

Dell Forms an Alliance With IBM

PC Maker Gets Know-How and Big Blue Gets a Steady Customer

NEW YORK - Dell Computer Corp. said Thursday that it would buy \$16 billion of equipment from Inter-national Business Machines Corp. under a seven-year deal that also calls for the companies to jointly develop new computer technology.

Both companies' stocks rose on the

announcement.

The deal initially calls for Dell m buy soch IBM equipment as disk drives, flatpanel displays and memory chips to use in its computers. The companies even-tually expect broader sharing of technology, including co-developing oew

Dell said the deal would help the company increase its competitiveness in notebook personal computers, storage products and servers, which are powerful corporate machines that run networks of PCs. IBM, in turn, will get a guaranteed source of sales.

"These companies are about the biggest competitors that I've seen get together on a technology agreement," said George Logemann of the Boston

consulting firm Yankec Group.

IBM shares finished \$3.875 higher at

Dell rose 93.75 cents to \$81.875. The best performer in the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index for the past three years, Dell had lost a quarter of its value since

The new agreement is not exclusive, allowing Dell to continue to buy from other suppliers. Dell was already ooc of IBM's top 10 customers, according in Dan Ries, an analyst at Kaufman Broth-

Dell, which mostly sells personal computers running on Intel Corp. mi-coprocessors and Microsoft Corp. software, oeeds another partner to help develop more advanced products because it spends little of its own money on research and development. IBM, whose hardware sales have been slowing, needs oew customers.

The Dell agreement is one of the most prominent in IBM's burgeoning business to sell components m other computer makers. The chairman of IBM, Louis Gerstner has called the compo-

nent business one of the major areas. along with computer services and software, on which the company is basing

its future sales growth. IBM is developing components for a number of fast-growing markets, including processors for cell phones. hand-hold devices and networking equipment, and storage disk drives for desktop and mobile computers. The company also has been in talks to license its technology breakthroughs to compa-nies, such as its copper chips, which are

faster than current microprocessors.

Dell is light in research and development, and IBM is technology heavy," Ries said, adding, "They both benefit. Dell gets R&D expertise, and IBM gets Dell as a huge customer."

Compoter makers are under intense pressure to shave costs and become more efficient amid a price-cutting war that has hurt even Dell, the fastest-growing manufacturer of PCs. It is No. 2 behind Compaq Computer Corp. Dell reported last mooth that its fourthquarter sales had fallen short of Wall Street expectations. (Bloomberg, AP)

Internet Lures Siemens to U.S. Market

By Seth Schiesel

New York Times Service NEW YORK - Siemens AG of Germany is about to expand into the fastgrowing data octworking business by forming a new American subsidiary, acquiring two private companies in the United States, investing in a third and hiring a senior executive from IBM. executives close to the company's plan-

Siemens, one of Europe's biggest manufacturing companies, also is in preliminary discussions with 3Com Corp. about paying \$1.2 billioo for the 3Com unit that sells networking equipment to telephone companies, the executives said.

ning said.

Siemens plans to annoonce Monday that it has agreed to acquire Castle Networks Inc., a private data-networking company based in Westford, Massachusetts, for about \$300 million in cash, and Argon Networks Inc., a private data-oetworking company in Littleton, Massachusetts, for about \$240 million in cash, the executives said.

Siemens also will announce an agreement to acquire a \$30 million stake in communications market, which is Bay Networks Inc. for \$9.1 billion.

Accelerated Networks Inc., a private booming as the Internet expands around company based in Moorpark, California. the world, Alcatel SA of France an-The acquisitions will be folded into a nounced its moves this week. (Page 12) new Siemens venture to be based in

Boston, the executives said. Siemens is close to a deal to hire Martin Clague, general manager for global network computing solutions at International Business Machines Corp., to become chief execuove of the venture, they said. Siemens, Castle, Argoo, Accelerated and Mr. Clague declined to comment.

Siemens shares rose 3.8 euros on Thursday, to 57.2 euros (\$62.25), on speculaçõo about the moves.

Executives close to Siemens said the board of the new company would include Mr. Clague, Fred Fromm, chief executive of Siemens's American operations; Thomas Rambold, president of Siemens's current data-networking group; Dan Smith, chief executive of Sycamore Networks Inc.; and George Conrades, former chairman of BBN Corp.

With its string of deals, Siemens is set

The volume of data traffic may soon outstrip the volume of voice telephone conversations on the world's communications networks, forcing the hig, old makers of telephone equipment to expand their expertise and product lines.

Many of the big communications car-riers that spend billions each year to upgrade their systems want to stop op-erating separate voice and data octworks. Instead, they would like to run single octworks based oo advanced data technologies, layering traditional voice phone calls on top as just another function, like Web browsing or the automated verification of credit card information.

That has set off a frenzy among the telecommunications equipment vendors to fulfill the desire. In January, Lucent Technologies Inc., North America's biggest maker of phone equipment, agreed to spend \$20 billioo to buy Asto become the second European maker cend Communications Inc., a big dataof traditional telephone equipment this networking player. And last year, Northmonth to make a big push into the data em Telecom of Canada agreed to acquire

Thinking Ahead / Commentary

The NGO Specter Stalks Trade Talks

ASHINGTON — As preparations get under way for a new round of international trade negotiations, provisionally dubbed the Millennium Round, some of the world's top trade diplomats are haunted by a nightmare.

It is that their jealously guarded privacy is about to be invaded by a horde of sandal-clad hippies accusing them of exploiting child labor, destroying the jobs of honest blue-collar workers, encouraging the slaoghter of endangered sea to the Millennium Round unless greater care is taken to prepare the political climate.

Many governments now say trade liberalization may be unable to proceed without wider support from public opin-trade official, and President Bill Clinton have called for "civil society" to be more closely involved.

Trade diplomats, however, are split between those who think it wise to accommodate the NGOs and those who want to keep them far out of the way. Accommodating them turtles and other unspeakable horrors.

turtles and other unspeakable horrors.

The nightmare is a caricature -- but only just. It is based on an uncomfortable new reality for the exclusive club of high-powered negotiators used to settling the future of the world trading system in inaccessible conference chambers, or the backrooms of fine restaurants, in Geneva. Trade oegotiacions are no longer

going to be shielded from the largely self-appointed representatives of what it has become fashionable to call "civil society" - in particular, the diverse array of increasingly powerful pressure groups known as nongovernmental organizations. These NGOs come in all shapes and sizes. Some of the more respectable

groups are dedicated to widely shared objectives such as the fight against corruption or the relief of hunger. But many of the most militant NGOs have 1960s-flavored agendas of hostility to free trade and economic globalization. Their causes may range from fixation on a single environmental issue to paternalistic concerns for people in developing countries that are often

not shared by the governments, or even the inhabitants, of the developing countries themselves.

Those hostile m globalization have been vastly emboldened by their success last year in helping to kill the plan for a multilateral agreement on investment that was under negotiation in the Organization for Economic Cooperation

and Development in Paris. That marked the first time that NGOs had managed to influence the outcome of a major international economic

negotiation — partly by making deft use of the Internet — and some senior trade officials oow fear they could do the same to the Millennium Round unless greater care is taken

creates many problems.

One senior trade diplomat in Geneva quite rightly points out that NGOs often display none of the transparency they seek in others, hide the sources of their funding and represent only narrow special interests, oot the wider public. Some of the more aggressive NGOs are more interested in confrontation than in consensus and are out to kill rational debate through biased, if oot erroneous, scare-mongering. Their holier-than-thou tactics

are often clearly undemocratic. Bot they are oot going to go away.

The challenge will be to satisfy the NGOs, or at least the more reasonable among them, that their opinions are being taken into account without letting them interfere in the actual negotiating process. That must remain

between governments. There are some things that the World Trade Organization in Geneva and its member governments should do anyway to engage public opinion more fully in the trade-liberalization process — such as declassifying documents, opening meetings to the public and holding more seminars

and briefings. Much of this is being done. But greater openness should not mean giving away commercially valuable information, revealing privileged governmental or legal communications or compromising ongoing negotiations. And the same standards should apply to the NGOs themselves. Their privacy should oot be free from the scrutiny they seek to impose on others.

E-mail address: Thinkahead@iht.com

China Increases Interest in WTO Bid

The prospect of more stringent entrance

By Elisabeth Rosenthal New York Times Service

BEUING - After two days of meetings, China and the United States have "made important progress" in defining terms for China to join the World Trade Organization, Wash-

ingtoo's senior trade official said Thursday.

But at the same time the official warned that there were significant differences between the countries and that "a

number of issues remained to be addressed." "The Chinese government has exhibited a very serious attitude and strength of purpose that has helped to make

this week particularly produc-ove," said Charlene Barshefrequirements for joining the trade body sky, the U.S. trade representative. She met for more than have rekindled enthusiasm for a deal. two hours with Prime Minister Zhu Rongji of China. Despite the caveats, Ms. Barshefsky's remarks were by far

the most optimisoc assessment in months of China's chances of joining the World Trade Organization, which sets the rules for internacional trade. She said that her chief oegotiators would remain in Beijing to work on a more detailed plan, although she would not elaborate on areas of concern.

Just three months ago both Chinese and U.S. officials were saying that ascension in the WTO was a dead issue this year, convinced that China's current economic downturn would make it impossible for the country in open its markets in the ways required for membership.

But the prospect of more stringent WTO entrance requirements in the future as well as the need for an image-lift

before Mr. Zhu's visit to Washington next month have recently rekindled interest in a deal. Now Chinese officials seemed determined m make a run at

WTO membership, whatever the short-term economic pains. Acceptance into the trade group would commit the country to reduce tariffs and other barriers to imports.

Ms. Barshefsky said that two or three months ago Chinese

Prices in Brazil

SAO PAULO - The

Brazilian inflation rate tripled

in February as husinesses raised prices, anticipating that the weakening currency would drive op borrowing

Consumer prices jumped

1.41 percent in February,

after the 0.50 percent increase

in January, the Institute for

The spike in prices fol-lowed the Jan. 13 devaluation

of the real and threatens to reverse the gains made since the introduction of the cur-

rency five years ago snuffed

out hyperinflation, which had

reached 5,000 percent in

Economic Research said.

and import costs.

Leap Upward

officials suddenly "indicated that they wished to re-engage in earnest," a request that has been since followed by a series of negotiations. They culminated in her visit to Beijing this week 'at the request of the Chinese government.'

Some experts say the new enthusiasm is related to the fact

that Taiwan, which China regards as a reoegade province, is concluding membership talks. But a stronger impetus seems to be that the WTO will probably redefine rules of membership at a meeting this autumn in Seattle, and many believe that entrance requirements will get stiffer at that time. "If China doesn't become a member before the Scattle meeting

later this year, the issue will drag on for years," said Ji Chongwei, a deputy minister in the government's State Council Development and Research Center. "I personally think it is hopeful that China can reach an agreement

with the U.S. in the near future. The need to mend fences before Mr. Zhu's visit to the United States next month has also put pressure on both sides. The collegial relationship that the United States and China bnilt through 1998, including President Bill Clinton's visit last summer, has been deteriorating ever since the government

started arresting pro-democracy activists late last year.

Although the U.S. secretary of state, Madeline Albright, labored to promote cordial engagement when she visited here this week, the two sides have receotly exchanged harsh words. A proposal for China to join the WTO - or even fruitful negotiations in that direction - would patch up the facade, if not the substance, of the relaconship.

"Both China and the U.S. hope to make some breakthroughs on bilateral relations during Zhu Rongji's visit," said Xue Ning, a researcher at the WTO Shanghai Research Center, a government think tank. "There won't be progress on issues like Taiwan, human rights, Tibet or religious belief. So to make the visit lonk good, both sides have the incentive to reach some agreement on WTO."

CURRENCY RATES

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> 1994. The government has predicted that inflation this year will be about 11 percent, but some analysts see it going as high as 85 percent. Brazil raised benchmark in-

terest rates for the second time in six weeks on Thursday, to CIBC PRIVATE BANKING IN SWITZERLAND

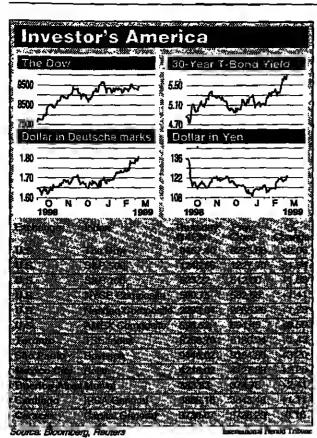
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THE AMERICAS



Very briefly:

 Lockheed Martin Corp.'s lawsuit accusing Raytheon Co. of backing out of a joint venture to build anti-tank missiles was dismissed by a judge in U.S. District Court in Fort Worth,

· Staples Inc., the U.S. office supply retailer, posted net income of \$101 million for the quarter to Jan. 30, up from \$70 million a year ago, and that it would begin to buy back as much as \$200 million of its common stock.

 Brazil's Senate approved the nomination of Arminio Fraga to become head of the central bank.

• Brazilian car and truck sales fell 57 percent in February from a year ago, depressed by high interest rates and rising for 20 percent of sales. prices following a currency devaluation.

• NCR Corp.'s board has authorized a 1-for-10 reverse stock with its North American rivals, it split, to be followed immediately by a 10-for-1 split, allowing has increased pressure on other holders of less than 10 shares to sell them to NCR without European companies, such as brokerage fees or commissions.

Support for Microsoft Breakup

NEW YORK - The largest U.S. software-industry trade group has recommended that if the government wins its antitrust suit against Microsoft Corp., it should seriously consider breaking up the software giant as a cure for what it called "the competitive crisis plagning the software industry."

But the report by the Software and Information Industry

Association, presented two weeks ago to the Justice Department, warned the government not to impose sanctions on Microsoft that could "fracture" the role of the company's Windows operating system as an industry standard.

The preferred option, according to an industry executive, was a breakup of Microsoft into three companies, one for operating systems, one for software applications and the third for Internet media and other commerce.

Alcatel **Makes New** U.S. Buy

PARIS — Alcatel SA, the French telecommunications equipment maker, announced Thursday its second acquisition this week of a U.S. technology company, as well as the establishment of a new In-

Alcatel has agreed to buy Assured Access Technology Inc. for \$350 million, which includes the cost of the equity purchase and a technology development incentive plan.

Assured Access, based in Milpitas, California, makes remote-access oodes that let phone companies and Internet access providers sell services allowing people to dial into a network from remote locations, such as their home or an airport.

Alcatel agreed Tuesday to buy Xylan Corp., a U.S. maker of data-

routing equipment.
Assured Access will continue to operate under its name. The company's founder, Arthur Klein, will remain chief executive, and Martin de Prycker, who was recently appointed president of Alcatel's Internet division, will serve as chairman. Alcatel announced the establish-

ment of the Internet division, which will provide equipment for carriers and service providers, on Thursday.

"Alcatel is now a credible comnetitor in the Internet market." said Douglas Smith, an analyst at Sa-

lomon Smith Barney. The United States is now Alcatel's biggest market, accounting

Now that Alcatel is catching up Bloomberg. AP. NYT Siemens AG and Ericsson AB, to make similar moves into the data networking market, analysts said. Siemens is expected to announce plans for its U.S. expansion in the (Bridge News, Bloomberg)

IBM-Dell Deal Propels Broad Wall Street Rally

Thursday, led by higher oil prices, a stable bond nounced that it was offering a \$5 rebate to market and especially a \$16 billion alliance becustomers who had not ordered recently. tween IBM and Dell Computer.

The Dow Jones industrial average finished 191.52 points higher at 9,467.40, with advancing issues leading decliners by a 4-to-3 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange. Broader indicators were higher as well, with

the Nasdaq composite index rising 27.84 points, to 2,293.04, and the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index closing up 18.96 points, at 1,246.66.

The Dow was lifted by IBM, which rose 3% to 170% after signing the seven-year deal to provide components to Dell. The maker of personal com-

the most-active issue on the Nasdaq. Among other Nasdaq stocks, Verio rose 4 to 361/2 after it said it would provide exclusive business Web-page hosting for America Online.

NEW YORK — U.S. stocks rose sharply mology shares, falling 2½ to 121 after it annually a stable bond nounced that it was offering a \$5 rebate to The market showed limite reaction to a government of the property of the prop

"On a short-term basis, it could be perceived as negative," said Ryan Jacob, portfolio manager

U.S. STOCKS

of the Internet Fund. Aggressively spending money could mean that it will take Amazon.com longer to start making money, he said.

CompUSA fell 11/2 to 8 7/16 after an analyst

said he thought customer traffic in the stores of the largest U.S. computer retailer was lower than

Financial-services stocks rose as Treasury puters also gained, rising 15/16 to 81%, and was bond prices were little changed after declining Wednesday. J. P. Morgan rose 14 to 113 11/16.

The benchmark 30-year bond fell 1/32 to 93 20/32, raising its yield to 5.70 percent, as traders

enument report that new orders for U.S. factory goods rose 1.7 percent in lanuary, to a \$349.6 billion annual rate. Analysts said the increase, which followed a 2.3 percent gain in December, might signal the start of a rebound in manufacturing after a start of a resource. ufacturing after a year of struggling with fallout from the Asian economic crisis.

The government also reported that new claims for unemployment compensation fell by 8,000 in the week that ended Monday, the lowest level in

Oil and oil-service stocks rose in tandem with

higher oil prices. Exxon rose 21/2 to 67 13/16 and Halliburton gained 1 37/64 to 32. Retailers gained after U.S. chain stores said sales at stores open more than a year rose in February. Wal-Mart, whose February sales rose 10.3 percent, rose 2 to 88%. (AP, Bloomberg)

European Bank Holds Steady on Rates

FRANKFURT - The European Central Bank left interest rates nnchanged Thursday but adopted a tone of concern over the European economy, saying that previously identified "risks" to growth have

begun to "materialize."

The president of the new bank, Wim Duisenberg, also said the re-cent drop in the value of the curo was not a cause of concern, but he warned that if exchange rates became "seriously out of line," then the bank would probably react.

Noting that economic growth in the enro-bloc economies weakened in the fourth quarter last year and that industrial confidence has continued to decline, Mr. Duisenberg said, "The latest indicators confirm that those risks which we identified earlier have now materialized to

some extent." The bank's decision to leave its refinancing rate for the 11 countries in the single currency unchanged at 3 percent sent the euro lower. Although few traders had predicted any cut, new signs of weakness in Traders sold yen after the deputy finance minister, Koji Tanami, de-

half-percentage-point decrease.

In 4 P.M. trading, the new currency was at \$1.0813, down from \$1.0883 on Wednesday. It has fallen steadily since its introduction, at \$1.16675, at the start of the year.

Robert Katz of MTB Bank said the euro would keep falling to oew

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

lows as traders expressed disappointment over what they have called the central bank's passive stance on promoting growth in the region. Germany said fourth-quarter gross domestic product fell 0.4 percent, the first such contraction in three years.

"They want them to cut," Ben Strauss of Bank Julius Baer said of traders' expectations for the bank, 'and they're not cutting. Therefore

the dollar's higher."

The dollar also gained against the yen, hitting a three-month high, as the Bank of Japan pumped more money into the banking system, driving down the return on yen deposits.

scribed the currency's drop as not particularly drastic or unnatural, indicating that Tokyo was not planning to counter the decline.
The dollar rose to 123.335 year

from 121.815 yen Wednesday. Mr. Tanami's comments showed

an "acceptance that the yea's weak-ness is appropriate," said David Factor, a senior director of foreign exchange at American Express

The overnight loan rate fell to 0.01 percent, half of what it was Wednesday, as the Bank of Japan sought to revive the economy by improving banks' access to money to lend. Three-month ven deposits yield just 0.23 percent, the lowest in more than a decade, compared with 5.05 percent on comparable dollar deposits.

"We're in the beginning stages of a larger upward move in the dollar," Mr. Factor said. Simon Robinsohn of Capel-Cure Sharp predicted that the dollar

would rise to 130 yen by midyear. The pound fell to \$1.6106 from \$1.6140, while the dollar rose to 1.4705 Swiss francs from 1.4600 francs. (Bloomberg, Bridge News)

AT&T in Canada Joins MetroNet

The Associated Press NEW YORK — AT&T Corp. said Thursday it would combine its Canadian opera-tions with MetroNet Communications Corp., a local Canadian phone-service supplier to businesses, in a deal that values

MetroNet at \$2.3 billion. The deal will enable the combined company to offer Canadian business customers products ranging long-distance to Internet access to local phone service.

It would also extend AT&T's strategy of creating a "one-stop for telecommunica-

MetroNet shareholders will own 69 percent of the combined company, and AT&T would have the remaining 31 percent. Upon approval of the deal by regulatory agencies, AT&T has agreed to buy all of MetroNet's shares for at least 75 Canadian dollars (\$49.15) a share or the appraised market value of MetroNet shares at the time.

CAKS: India's Venerable 'Amby' Runs Into Trouble as the Model's Market Share Declines to 5 Percent

Continued from Page 11

1,000 workers," said R. Santhanam, the company's few takers.

chief executive.

lump-sum buyout but found

tarpara factory is \$140 a factory lost \$9.5 million, acmonth, which is not insubstantial to a worker in There is urgency to lowerstantial to a worker in one of Scaling back hours was the world's poorest countries. Hindustan Motors' fallback

In October, the company option, and late last year the in power for 22 years. When offered its older employees a company announced that it the company proposed a rewanted to reduce the work- trenchment, its unions proweek to three days from six tested. "Hindustan Motors and cut wages accordingly.

By law, such action requires government approval, hard to card them," said Samar get in most states but nearly impossible in West Bengal,

has sucked the blood out of its workers and now wants to dis-

Chakraborti, joint general secretary of the Indian Trade Uo-

where Communists have been ion Congress.

High Low Lobet Choe

Chakraborty, another union leader. "The true punishment should be given to the people who have done the bad work. the people who run the com-

The union general secretary points out that Hindustan Birla Group, is still turning a profit, largely through its pro-

"Management has shown

little understanding of mod-

ern marketing," said Ajit

But without government approval, it must pay the workers their full wages.

In January, the West Bengal labor department rejected the company's proposed retreachment plan as produces in a modern factory of Madras, using Japanese.

sador respond to changing ecutive's salivary glands into times?" said V. Subramani-an, the labor secretary. "It nearly a billion people and 50 had a virtual monopoly at one million urban households.

drive vehicles and minivans. For its most recent year, Maruti Udyog Ltd. had an 86 percent share of new-car sales in India. In the 1990s, as India rid

itself of many of the shackles of Nehru-era socialism, some of the world's biggest automakers decided to enter the market and assemble cars. Motors, flagship of the C.K. Among the companies that jumped in were Ford Motor Co., General Motors Corp., duction of other vehicles at PSA Pengeot Citroen SA, other sites. The company's Daewoo Motor Co. and after-tax earnings in its most Honda Motor Co. To varying recent year were \$9.4 million, degrees, most have forged

companies. Over the past two years, as ahead with its plans to operate factories have opened, a new with a reduced workweek, model or make has entered

"absurd," issuing a decision in Madras using Japanese that chastised management technology.

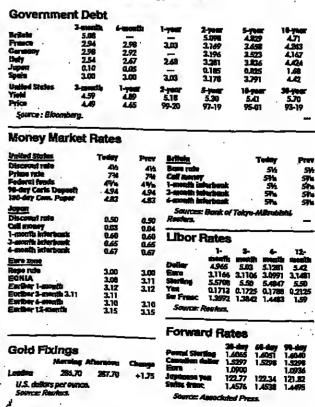
India's potential market has potential market has been many an auto expendence.

when the first Maruti 800 came off the assembly line. The product of a joint venture between the government and Suzuki Motor Corp., the car was small and cute and easy to drive.

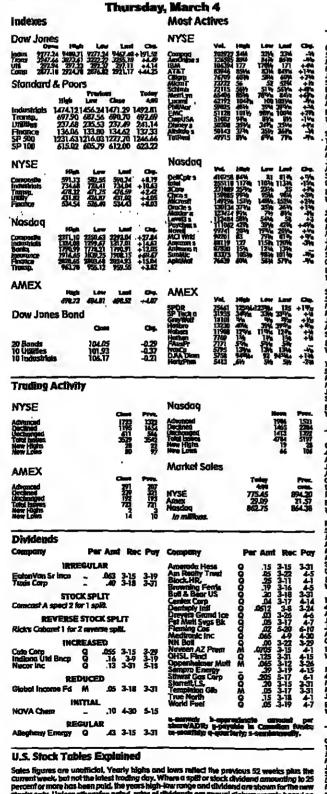
Hindusten Motors against growth, many analysts said sales were headed toward nearly 900,000 a year by the turn of the century.

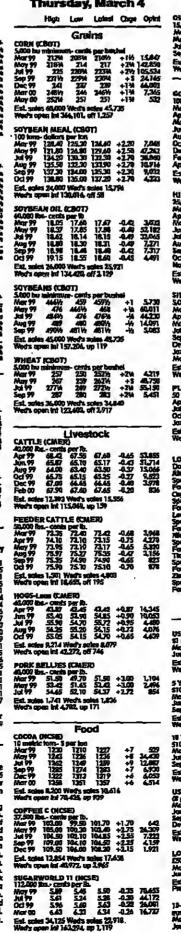
This has proved wildly optimistic, and most manufacturers are now fighting price wars. In this faddish competition the Ambassador seems. Hindustan Motors never tition, the Ambassador seems countered with its own sub-compact, while Maruti added can now be bought with an

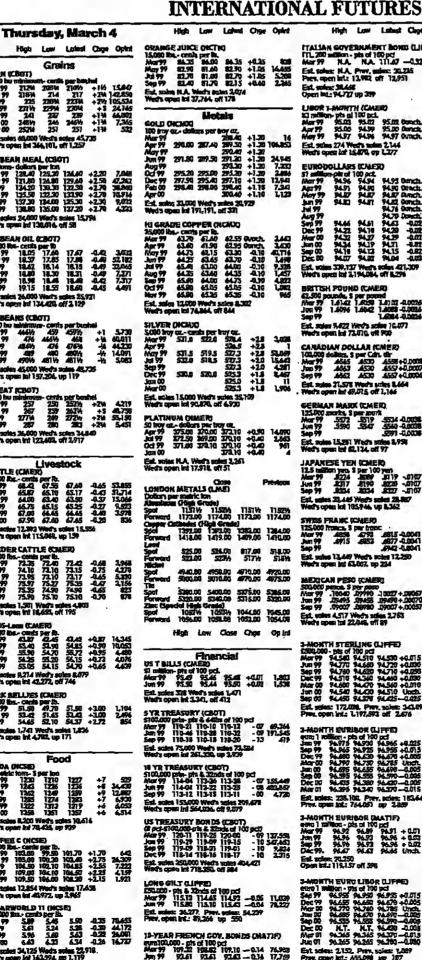
INTEREST RATES

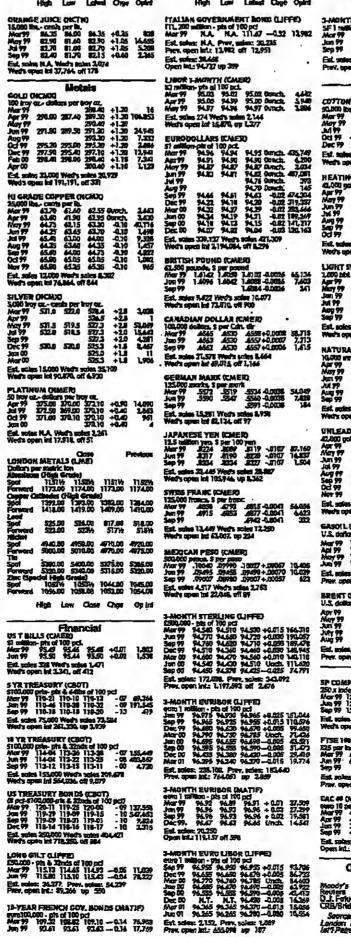


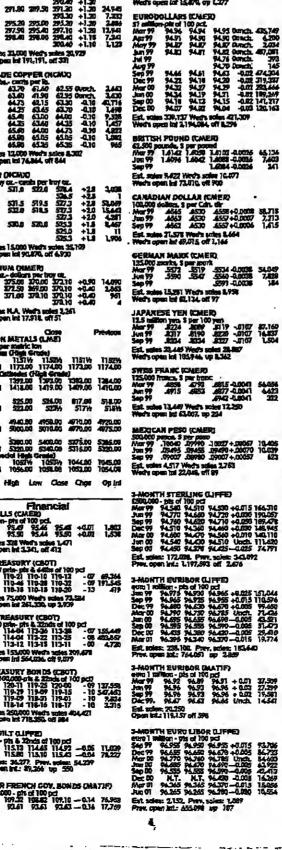
U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY





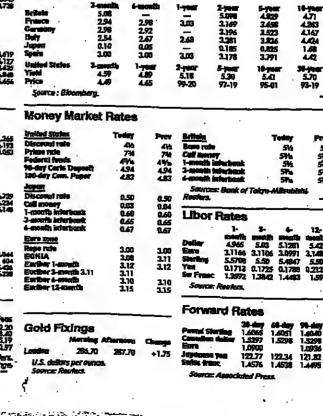


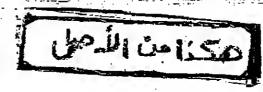












Canal Plus

Cuts Off Talks

With BSkyB

Compared to Car Staff From Department

LVMH Abandons Bid for Seat on Gucci Board

Agence France-Presse PARIS — LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton SA said Thursday it

rights in Gucci until April. A Gucci spokesman in Milan said, meanwhile, that the company remained ready to talk to LVMH. which has built up a 34.4 percent stake in Gucci this year, but that the French luxury-goods giant must bid for all stock if it wanted to take over

LVMH said it was withdrawing

the serious legal problems" raised onto the board. Gucci on Thursday by Gucci's attempt to block a board canceled the meeting. seat for LVMH.

Gucci said that the delay in a final court ruling would provide time for an amicable solution, and that Gucci and its partners remained available for talks with Bernard Arnault, the chief executive and controlling shareholder of LVMH LVMH had

was abandoning its bid for a seat on the board of the Italian fashion house on Wednesday that suspended its at special shareholders' meeting on March 23 to decide whether to allow board. But it also said it was "very new shares to an employee trust fund Gucci Group NV after a Dutch court voting rights in Gucci until April 22, March 23 to decide whether to allow temporarily suspended its voting because the court had "recognized a nominee of the French company

> The Dutch court temporarily suspended LVMH's voting rights on Wednesday — effectively meaning it would not have won any vote on March 23 — but said the move was designed to give the court time to

its proposal to nominate an "ingone to court to try to reverse Thursday that LVMH's decision to dependent candidate" to the Gucci's move to issue millions of withdraw its candidate for the board showed the that French company "feared the March 23 shareholders" meeting would reject its request."

In its ruling, the Amsterdam Court of Appeals said it doubted Gucci's policy of issuing shares to an employee trust fund was legal. It added that LVMH's cooduct in acquiring its current shareholding in Gucci also may not be in line with accepted behavior.

Neither the employee trust fund nor LVMH may make use of their draw up a detailed final judgment. voting rights until the court has A Gucci spokesman said on taken its decision," the court said.

> investors, everyone says the same thing: The tax reform will cost

iobs," said Hans-Olaf Henkel, pres-

ident of the German Industry Fed-

eration, speaking before the vote. "Everyone sees that clearly, but not

The opposition leader, Friedhelm

Merz of the conservative Christian

Democrats, charged that Germany's

already feeble economy would be

One day earlier, the Bundestag

approved another benchmark tax

change that similarly drew the ire of

industry. Lawmakers passed the "ecology tax" legislation that raises taxes on gasoline and other fuels with the aim of using the extra income to

Lafootaine and his advisers.

'strangled' by the changes.

PARIS - Talks on a possible linkup between pay television chan-nels of Canal Plus SA of France and British Sky Broadcasting Group PLC have been suspended, and oo further meetings are planned. Canal

Plus said Thursday. Rupert Murdoch, who controls BSkyB, and Pierre Lescure, presideot of Canal Plus, met here Wednesday to discuss a possible tie-up between BSkyB and the French pay television channel, but oo agreement was reached.

Shares of both companies fell Thursday, with Canal Plus at 277 euros (\$301), down 8.80, and BSkyB

at 550 pence (\$8.87), down 11.

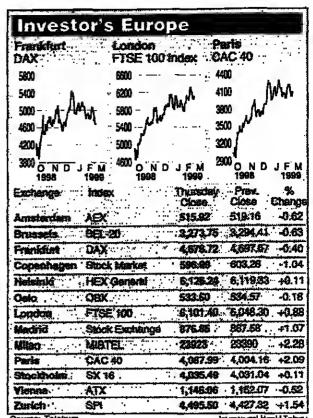
"BSkyB had very little to offer other than that they were a bigger company, and Canal Plus said 'oo thanks,' 'said Terry Povey, an analyst at HSBC Securines Inc.

BSkyB approached Canal Plus about a linkup after Mr. Murdocb's efforts to invest in Telecom Italia Sp.A's Stream pay-television service failed last month. A Canal Plus linkup would have given Mr. Murdoch access to the French market, as well as to Italy, Spain and the Netherlands.

But the two sides had been unable to agree on coodinions by Canal Plus that the company remain a French entity, that Canal Plus cootrol the management and that the oew company protect French, Italian and European culture, the Canal Plus statement said.

Mr. Lescure had said be would be willing to consider a merger with BSkyB as long as the French partner ran the business. (AFP, Bloomberg)

> 1.87 12.80 3.12 20.10 1.49 2.46 9.95 1.00 12.80 3.18 20.20 1.51 2.46 10.20



Very briefly:

- President Boris Yeltsio is prepared to interveoe persocally in loan talks between Russia and the International Monetary Fund if the talks break down, Mr. Yeltsin's spokesman said. The IMF and Moscow have been at odds for six months over the resumption of loans.
- Telecom Italia SpA gave its chief executive, Franco Bernabe, a mandate to defend the company from a hostile bid by Olivetti SpA and called a board meeting for Wednesday.
- Vickers PLC's 1998 profit rose to £157 million (\$253.9 million) from £19.4 million a year ago as a one-time gain of £101.4 million from the sale of divisions, including Rolls-Royce Motor Cars, offset a decline in earnings at its tanks business.
- British Telecommunications PLC and AT&T Corp. named David Dorman to head their planned \$10 billion joint venture. Mr. Dorman is currently head of PointCast Inc., a

privately held Internet information company. Bloomberg. Reuters

Better Shopping For Tunnel Users

Compiled by Our Stuff From Dispotches

LONDON - Passengers using the Channel Tunnel between England and France will benefit from an increase of shopping facilities under a 15-year deal announced Thursday by Eurotunnel and the British Airports Authority. The deal gives BAA, which manages most of Britain's airports, operation of re-tail facilities at the Folkestone and Calais terminals on both

sides of the English Channel. The partnership will not be affected by the expected European Union decision to abolish duty-free shopping this sum-

mer, the companies said. Eurostar UK, the British arm of the group operating the Chunnel trains, also said on Thursday that a management overhaul had helped it cut operating losses by 30 percent. (Reuters, AFP)

GERMANY: Bonn Ignores Business Protests on Tax Plan

Continued from Page 1

week on its front page over the "revolt by business." In what the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung said was a rare degree of fury, 22 top managers from industry leaders such as the airline Lufthansa and chemical maker BASF AG published an open letter to Mr. Schroeder warning him that his tax policies "give reason for fear" for jobs and investment.

The backlash over tax policy adds to the mounting criticism of Mr. Schroeder's administration.

The new government, which is openly split between Mr. Schroeder's pragmatist wing and Mr. Lafontaine's rival clique of old-style socialists, has come under fire for a series of inconsistent pronouncements and policy reversals. The govemment already has confounded voters with zigzags on plans to withdraw from nuclear power and a new bill to regulate low-paying, part-time jobs. It also corrected itself on a plan to overhaul nationality laws.

17.00 31.86 5.05 18.70 25.00 19.05 7.95 51.50 580 27.10 8.30 23.50 17.10 37.00 5.05 19.05 19.05 19.05 51.80 51.80 27.91 8.75 23.70

Hong Kong

5.517.100 9.000 9.

chamber of Parliament voted largely along coalitioo lines, by 312 to 251 with 27 abstentions. The bill, which ranks among the government's most important policy priorities, is expected to clear the final hurdle March 19 and become law after a vote in the Bundesrat, the upper chamber.

To create "more tax fairness" for average-income families and work-ers, Mr. Lafontaine's three-step plan would phase in a series of tax cuts between the years 2000 and 2002. The lowest income tax bracket would drop to 19.9 percent from 23.9 percent, and the top tax rate would fall to 48.5 percent from 53 percent. Overall, Germans would pay 19.5 billion Deutsche marks (\$10.9 billion) less

taxes by 2002. offset Germany's steep welfare But to finance the lost revenue, costs, which in turn is meant to lower in taxes by 2002. Mr. Lafontaine's plan would scrap dozens of tax breaks and loopholes that have benefited businesses for omy was again highlighted Thursday years. That means that business ba- when the Federal Statistics Office sically picks up the bill for some 57 billion DM in lost tax revence.

wage costs and boost job creation. The fragility of Germany's econreported that the West German economy contracted in the fourth quarter overhaul nationality laws.

"Whether big or small compalast year, confirming a report last on the tax legislation, the lower nies, whether domestic or foreign month by the Bundesbank.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Thursday, March 4
Prices in local currencies:
In euros for EMU countries.

Amsterdam

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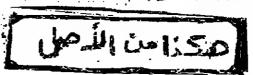
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INTERNATIONAL INVESTING

Goldman Offering Shows Confidence in Market

By Joseph Kahn New York Times Service

NEW YORK - The revival of Goldman, Sachs & Co.'s plan to go public is a sign that top bankers on Wall Street see the strength in the U.S. stock market as sustainable, despite fears that the run-up in Internet stocks that has belped drive

stock prices has begun to cool.

Goldman would be deeply embarrassed to have to cancel its stock offering a second time. Executives there are making a calculated gamble that the financial winds are steady enough to carry them through the summer.

Goldman, the last big private investment bank on Wall Street, will go public by early summer, the firm announced Wednesday, barring another slump in the market like the one that caused Goldman to delay its plans to go public last

The full roster of 221 partners who own the firm will not vote formally on the share offering until Monday, but little apposition is expected.

Goldman, which makes most of its money from trading and underwriting securities and advising companies on strategy, plans to sell 10 percent to 15 percent of its shares to the public. If the issue is successful, Goldman will have more capital to compete with

other banks and brokerage houses in areas such as managing client money and the Internet, where it hopes to grow

If all goes well, the sale of shares in the presingious investment bank is likely to be one of the richest in the history of initial public offerings, but perhaps not

as bountiful as it might have been. Profits at Goldman and other financial companies are bouncing back after they tumbled last autumn. But some analysts caution that the recovery is still partial and that the financial markets are more volatile than they were last year, when Goldman's leaders first overcame longstanding internal opposition and per-

and \$35 billion. Several people who have studied the issue say they believe that Goldman is aiming to sell shares at a price that would value the whole firm at \$22 billion to \$25 billion, or about 20 percent less than its target range at the time of the first offering announce-

That would reduce the value of the shares that Goldman partners receive, but bardly by painful amounts. The lowest-ranking partners, including those named to their posts only a few months ago, probably would have shares valued at about \$15 million. The most senior executives would see their share boldings reach \$150 million, people close to the firm have estimated

Goldman also intends to turn all of its lower-ranking bankers into sharehold-ers. The last time, the partners agreed to devote about 20 percent of the total ownership of the firm to employees, a level that some expect to be maintained

All inside shareholders will hold refew years, and the value of their boldings will depend on the share price at the time

the firm this time is that investors pay chief executive officer, leaving Henry less now for shares of Goldman's chief Panlson alone in the top post. rivals. Financial stocks have recovered in recent months, but only Morgan Stansecurities firms has came close to touch-

'We're still waiting to see proof of a Moszkowski, an industry analyst for Salomon Smith Barney Inc. "The momentum is back, but we need to see

Bond-trading losses and slow under-



Goldman does.

One reason for the lower valuation of Jon Corzine resigned as Goldman's co-

chairman. The leadership change disley Dean Witter & Co. among the major closed tensions in the executive suite over the way the firm was run and its

"Goldman does not have the same full recovery in brokerage stocks," said profit stability as some other firms, and that will be on investors' minds," said Michael Holland of Holland & Co., a fund manager specializing in financial the results of the first and second quarter stocks. "But they are also one of a kind, to say they are completely bealthy and I expect them to try to price their

shares aggressively. Working in Goldman's favor are early writing activity slasbed Goldman's signs that the first quarter of this year is suaded the partners to go public.

Goldman bopes to raise \$2.5 billion to \$3.5 billion, a wide range that could put the full market value of Goldman's plague many Wall Street firms. But other full market value of Goldman's profit in the second half of last year, proving to be a rollicking success. Stock strength of sorts, leaving Goldman free talking. One subject for speculation is to embrace the Internet without fear of whether Goldman's brand name will allienating thousands of employees. One low it to command a share-price premisenior committee at the firm is now un over Merrill and Morgan Stanley.

stricted stock that cannot be sold for a it cards and retail mutual funds that acquisition activity promises a steady is examining how it should best jump few years, and the value of their boldings allow them to weather storms better than flow of advisory fees into the summer into the on-line world. allow them to weather storms better than flow of advisory fees into the summer oldman does. months. Goldman's profit appears an After the market turmoil last autumn, track to comfortably exceed the first quarter of 1998, when it made more than

\$1 billion. They are in the sweet spot of their Mr. Corzine remains a nonexecutive current cycle, striking on all cylinders," hairman. The leadership change dis-Mr. Holland said. "I think they're gusb-

ing cash these days. Goldman afficials declined to coming its all-time high. The share price of tendency to derive a big chunk of profit ment on the firm's current profitability another leading competitor. Merrill from trading stocks and bonds with its or plans to sell sbares, citing government Lynch & Co., is still 30 percent off its own capital, Goldman insiders have regulations that prohibit companies from promoting their own stock in the

weeks before a public offering. Working in Goldman's favor these days is a major business that it does not have: a retail brokerage. Unlike Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley and many other firms, Goldman does not have a network of brokers who sell stocks and bonds to

middle-class individual investors. Its lack of that business was seen as a weakness for years. But it may now be a

By the time Goldman starts marketing shares to investors in late April and early May, the firm expects to have an Internet strategy to talk about, people close to it

"This is the No. 1 thing that every investor in our industry is looking at." one person close to Goldman said. Goldman will be thinking about taking its brand name and accessing new mar-

People within Goldman are debating whether it makes sense for the firm to jump into the retail brokerage business, either through its own on-line brokerage house or in alliance with an established furn such as Fidelity Investments or Charles Schwab & Co. Goldman has also explored ways in which new trading networks offer alternatives to establisbed stock markets.

For that and other reasons. Goldman's public offering has the rest of Wall Street talking. One subject for speculation is um over Merrill and Morgan Stanley.

Goldman Sachs

Henry Paulson, left, with Jon Corzine, his former co-chief executive at Goldman, Sachs & Co., which has revived the plan for a public offering it abandoned last year. Goldman is the last hig private investment bank on Wall Street to go public, and it hopes to raise between \$2.5 billion and \$3.5 billion from the sale.

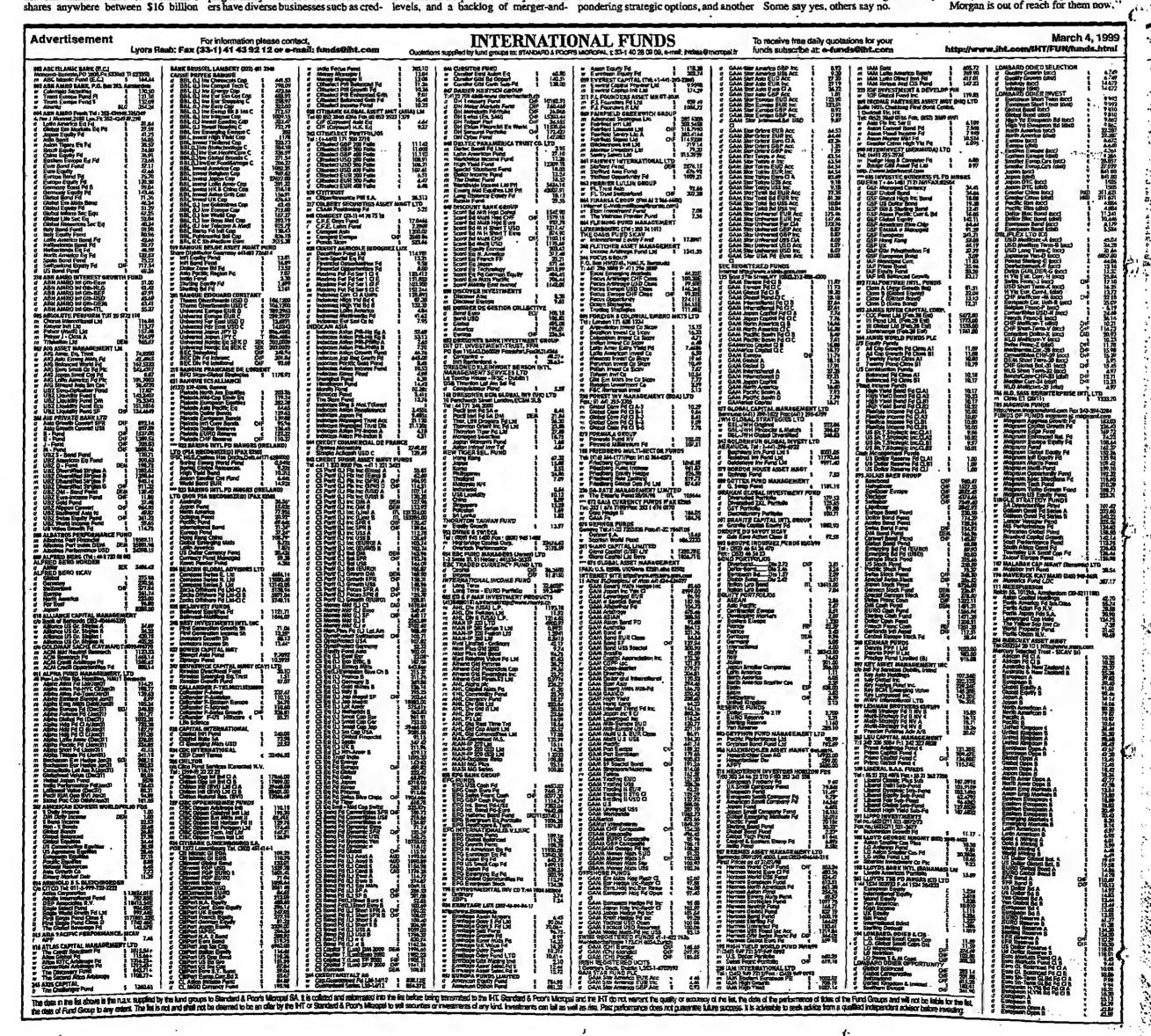
The benchmark to beat is Morgan Stanley. At its closing price Wednesday of \$92.625 a share. Morgan trades at about 3.8 times its book value, a ratio that serves as the standard way of measuring financial stock prices. Merrill, which suffered more in the market downturn last fall, now trades at about

2.9 times book value. For Goldman to hit a \$25 billion valuation, it would have to price its shares at roughly four times its current book value-of \$6.3 billion, a slight premium in Mor-gan Stanley's level. Even at the bottom of its intended range, Goldman would have to trade at a hefry premium to Merrill's current level.

'I think Goldman will trade at or above Morgan or they won't do the offering." Mr. Holland, the money manager, said

But one banker at a rival Wall Street firm, who asked not to be identified because his firm is in contention to help Goldman underwrite its shares, said be would be surprised if Goldman could price its shares at a premium to Merrill

'I think they will be lucky to get to that level," he said. "My impression is that Morgan is out of reach for them now."



ASIA/PACIFIC

Gang Threats Prompt Stock Sale JAL's Biggest Shareholder Says Yakuza Bought Rival Stake

TOKYO — The biggest share-holder of Japan Air Lines Co. said

Thursday that Lark Co. said Thursday that he planned to sell his 60 million shares because the head of an organized crime syndicate that attacked him 13 years ago had since acquired the second-largest

individual stake "I'm scared," Eitaro Itoyama, centimeter (6-inch) scar. Mr. Itoyama, who acknowledges his own links to other gangsters, was re-portedly stabled by a member of the Goto faction affiliated with the Yamaguchi-gumi yakuza crime syndicate in June 1986.

The head of the Goto group this year has bought 1 million shares in the airline, giving him a 0.06 per-cent stake and the right to attend shareholders' meetings, according to Mr. Itoyama and reports in the Japanese media. Two Goto group members said they could not confirm the stock purchase. Japan Air Lines said it does not comment on shareholders' purchases but said it had no connections with the Goto group and its associates, a spokes-

To be sure, Mr. Itoyama himself has a history of causing Japanese companies so much grief that they

Bloomberg News

largely because of staff cuts and

other belt-tightening measures.

net profit more than tripled last year, company in the planned sale of a 13

The company earned 258.3 bil-lion won (\$210 million), up 224

The sale of depositary receipts, aimed at raising \$1 billion, is part of

27.31 27.54 PTFL 15.79 15.30

18.17 28.25 10.29 27.17

PTFL, 13.15 13.04

target appears to be JAL. In December, Mr. Itoyama called for nificial potted plants. A JAL dithe resignation of the company's rector, Kotaro Sato, who resigned president, Isao Kaneko, and for the because of the scandal, was prosboard to take responsibility for de-

clines in revenue and profit. The news comes at a difficult time for JAL, the largest airline in 56, said as he rolled up the shirt Asia, whose shares have fallen 40 percent in the past year. The airline percent in the past year. The airline has racked up group net losses for five straight years.

formerly had links with gangsters be said.

known as sokaiya, who make a living through extortion. Transport Minpany, a 1 ister Jiro Kawasaki accused JAL last August of damaging the credibility of Japan's airlines after its links with

sokaiya became public. Sokaiya are known for buying a token amount of a company's stock and then threatening to disrupt shareholder meetings unless they are paid. In Japan, quick and quiet shareholder meetings are often equated with good financial

Until now, JAL's known links with gangsters have been with sokaiya, a less menacing group than the yakuza gangs to which the Goto faction belong.

percent stake to foreign investors in

percent from 79.7 billion won in a plan to privatize major state may increase local telephone

the next few months.

Bloomberg News
SEOUL—Korea Telecom Corp.
South Korea's state-controlled phone company, said Thursday its
SIGUL—Rorea Telecom Corp.
The profit jump could help the company, said Thursday its
Surpassing the average forecast of the Korean War in the early 1950s.
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The profit jump coul

1997, a finance executive said, companies to help ease the country's charges 22 percent to generate 43 percent from a year earlier, to Earnings per share were 897 won, deepest recession since the end of money to upgrade its telecommu- 636.4 billion won.

boost earnings."

as payments for the rental of arecuted and fined 500,000 yen, and the current president, Isao Kaneko,

took a voluntary pay cut. Now, Mr. Itoyama said, he feels pressure to give up his 4 percent stake in IAL, a year after becoming its top shareholder.

'I'm not afraid of anyone in the IAL has acknowledged that it world except for the Goto group,

> He said a New York-based company, a Tokyo-based company and six other companies or individuals have expressed interest in buying focus on its airline business. his shares.

Mr. Itoyama paid about 27 bil-lion yen for his stake in the company, acquiring most shares for between 400 yen and 500 yen each in the antumn and winter of 1997. JAL shares closed up 6 yen, at 312 yen, on Thursday.

Since becoming IAL's shareholder in February 1998, he has been a thorn in the airline's side, making many demands that

IAL has complied with.

Last spring Mr. Itoyama called for the sale of Essex House, a luxcompanies so much grief that they Two sokaiya were sentenced to ury hotel overlooking New York's politics was to cut links with resort to buying out his invest- four and eight months in prison last Central Park, saying JAL should them."

The government said last month it



Eitaro Itoyama says he feels pressure to sell his 60 million shares in Japan Air Lines.

In January, JAL said it would sell the botel to Strategic Hotel Capital Inc. Terms were not dis-

Mr. Itoyama, a former member of both houses of Parliament, was named one of Japan's richest men in 1988 by Forbes magazine. He talks openly about his own gang-ster links and said he counts some sokaiya among his friends.

"I did bave links with gangsters to win support when I was running for elections," Mr. Itoyama said. "But the main reason I retired from

The company, which is 71.2 per-

It plans to cut staff a further 10

percent in the first half of this year.

Operating profit last year jumped

"The company is shifting to profit-oriented investment, and a rise in trimmed its work force of 58,000 by

local telephone tariffs will help 11 percent last year to reduce costs.

Korea Telecom's Profit Soars After Cost-Cutting Moves Banks Ask for Cash Aid

Japan's top 15 banks formally asked for a combined 7.45 trillion yen in cash injections from the gov-erument Thursday to help them clear out bad loans, Agence France-

cations next Friday.

Households In Japan **Spend More**

TOKYO - Household spending in Japan rose in January from December, the Economic Planning Agency said Thursday, the fifth increase in six months and a sign that government action to stimulate the economy may be succeeding.

The household spending index rose a seasonally adjusted 2.2 percent to 98.1 points, the Management and Coordination Agency said. From January a year earlier, overall house-

bold spending rose 1.4 percent.
Economists say getting Japanese consumers to spend again holds the key to pulling the world's secondlargest economy out of its worst recession in more than 50 years. In an effort to turn the economy around, the government has unveiled a 40 trillion yen (S328 billion) in stimulus

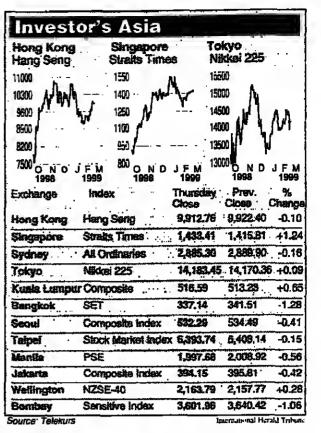
measures over the past year. Money from a 16 trillion yen package unveiled last April began to flow into the economy in September. In November, the government announced another package, pro-viding a record 24 trillion yen in public-works spending, tax rebates

and job-creation subsidies. Several indicators show that action is beginning to bear fruit. In December and January, manufacturers increased production as rising public works projects gave a boost to the construction industry. That led to an increase in overtime hours, fueling

the increase in household spending.

Presse reported. The money is the key part of a major bank recapitalization program enacted last October.

The Financial Reconstruction Commission, a new body charged with tackling Japan's banking crisis, is expected to approve the appli-



Very briefly:

Hong Kong Telecommunications Ltd. and Microsoft Corp. are forming a venture to enable consumers to gain access to movies and interactive video games through personal computers in Hong Kong, one of the few cities capable of sup-porting such a network, a person involved in the plans said.

• British Telecommunications PLC and France Telecom SA are among the bidders for a minority stake in PT Indosat. Indonesia's dominant international phone company.

· Brierley Investments Ltd., a New Zealand investment concern, had a bigger-than-expected loss of 151.3 million New Zealand dollars (S80.4 million) in the six months through Dec. 31 after a profit of 120 million dollars a year earlier as it absorbed the cost of selling a forestry investment.

Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank Ltd. plans to cut its work force to 13,200 by March 2003, down nearly 3,000 from current levels, as part of a restructuring.

• Fuji Bank Ltd. widened its pretax loss forecast for the year ending March 31 by 29 percent, to 760 billion yen (\$6.33 billion), because of write-offs of 700 billion yen for bad loans, 250 billion yen more than originally planned

• Telekom Malaysia Bhd., Malaysia's largest phone company, recorded a bigger-than-expected 46 percent drop in profit in 1998, to 991 million ringgit (\$261 million) from 1.83 billion ringgit a year earlier, as its cellular units lost customers and businesses disconnected phone lines.

C - Sterlinge; S - US Dollers; ALID - Australian Dollars; ATS - Austrian Schillinge; BEF - Belgion Francis; CAD - Connection Dollars; CHF - Swiss Francis; CYF - Cyprus Pounds; DEM - Davische Barks; OKK - Danish Krones; E - European Currency Units; PTE - Securios; ESP - Preside; FHF Francis Francis; M.G - Datch Floring; GFD - Drachmes; MRO - HK Dollars; TTL - Italian Lirae; LIF - Lucesthoury Francis; MOK - Morwegoan Krones; SEK - Swedigh Krones; Y - Yer; ZAR - Rand;

Advertisement March 4, 1999 INTERNATIONAL FUNDS To receive tree daily quotat Lyora Reab; Fax (33-1) 41 43 82 12 or e-mail: 4.285 5.980 7.471 4.474 4.473 4.367 127 14 SEC Bond PHILOTOP B SEC BOND Green Web, Invite LIM ECU Green Web, Lid A LIST Green Web, Lid A LIST Green Web, Lid A LIST Green Web, Lid C DEM Hence Globed English Finith Hence Globed English Finith Hence Globed English Finith Hence Globed English Finith Hence Globed English Hence Globed Finith Josepher Glober Finith John Glober Finith Jo USS Moonly Mortal Class of PICTET & CE Interferompt 1-4-1122 281 0070 F-761 0071 PCF Voltagen PFIF GI F-Inc.-Ref Euro A PFIF GI F-Inc.-Ref Euro B ar AARF Union Communication 5 of AARF Union Communication 6 of Producer S.A. Aktion 6 of U.U.F. DEAR Readlers A of U.U.F. DEAR Readlers A of U.U.F. DEAR Readlers A of U.U.F. Short Term A of U.U.F. Short Short Short Short of U.U.F. Short Short Short of U.U.F. Short w Olympio inth Art. Euro Sec. Frehatury Group w Clympia Enwerging Michs Wirch, Frontier or Olympia Ser Euro Series w Wirch, Hadg lets MacReson Wirch, Hadg lets I MacReson w Wirch, Hadg lets I Ser o Winch, Rome, Marie, Gr Olympio Series Winch, Rome, Marie, Gr Olympio I I Ser Olympio I I Ser Olympio I I Ser Olympio I Ser o Olympio Animares. P.A.G.F. Pic. Asia Growth Fig. P.A.F. Schol Stratu-Live Co. P.A.F. Scholar Co. P.A.F. Scholar Co. P.A.F. Scholar Co. P.A.F. P.A.F. Scholar Co. P.A.F. P.A.F. Scholar Co. P.F. P.A.F. Scholar Co. P.F. P.A.F. Scholar Co. P.F. P.A.F. Scholar Co. P.F. Scholar Co. P. Scholar Co. P FD LTD 29.311 29.76 27.51 30.09 18.64 17.06 er Cert Concept Twe Thereford Hat TAR, white The Test 1987 He Hat TAR, white The Test 1987 He Hat Tark white The Test 1987 He Hat Test White He Hat Test Test Test Test Hat Test Test Test Hat Test Test Test Hat Test Test Hat Test Test Hat 1419 2062.01 CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES P CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES P CONS D CO 13,931 13,53 14,743 11,346 17,346 33,15 14,05 32,15 14,05 4,07 14,16 12,765 12,765 10.45 12.10 12.00 w Haptens Fords The Calembria Mar Hearber 122 0825 HVTS Hearseld (441) 25 Global Empty (2502) Optical (USS) (2002) Updend (USS 77.74 24.63 24.38 10.42 10.45 7.37 1357.00 LATER AMERICA PORTFOLIO CISTO B CISTO 10.10 9.85 4.75 4.71 A Notiver Sensitives Particle 5 1.281et : 44-181-70001 Tel : 46-181-70001 Tel : 46-181-猎 12.67 12.67 SSI OCHURD ADVISORS LTD TELL+1 345 949 440 FAX:+1 345 949 041 TELL+1 345 949 440 FAX:+1 345 949 041 TELL+1 345 949 440 FAX:+1 345 949 041 TELL+1 345 949 040 FAX:+1 345 949 041 IT IS | COST A | 1.053 A | 1.053 A | 1.053 A | 1.055 DOBA A SATE AS A 119.00 150.00 9.16 18150.00 151.00 171.00 138.00 104.114 44.775 44.775 44.716 26.716 202.71 2 BOND SERIES NAV as al (12/15/77) ADJUSTABLE RATE SECURITIES PTFL 9.17 9.17 192 797 26.97 24.49 20,03 18,91 999 Other Funds *** Absolute Refum Migl. ARM *** Advenide *** AJR International (BVI) *** Advent (BVI) *** AJR International (BVI) *** Advent (BVI 11.60 1.48 13.40 1035 137 741.00 106.74 106.25 104.55 114.06 274.97 224.72 197.20 118.26 118.26 118.26 24.02 777 155 246 121 451 245 414 409 1025 1220 TWEEDY BROWRE VALUE PURDS

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Herald Eribune SPORTS

Rain Slows Pakistan

CRICKET Wajahatullah Wasti made 80 not out Thursday and Imran Nazir added 64 as Pakistan reached 192 for three wickets against Sri Lanka in Lahore.

Nazir, a 17-year-old making his test dehut, completed his half century before lunch on the rain-curtailed opening day of the Asian Test Championship match. (AP)

Rockies Sign Walker

BASEBALL The National League batting champion, Larry Walker, agreed Thursday to a six-year extension of his contract with the Colorado Rockies.

Walker, in interviews, had been pressuring the Rockies to come up with a deal before the season began, hinting he might choose to become a free agent if they did not. Terms of the cootract were not disclosed.

Walker, 32, won the 1998 National League batting title with a .363 average. In 1997, he was the league's most valuable player.

Walker's defensive play has earned him two consecutive Gold Gloves. He is the Rockies' career leader with a batting average of .335, slugging percentage of .643 and on-base percentage of .414. His lifetime average, including his seasons at Montreal, is .305.

Walker signed a four-year free-agent cootract with the Rockies before the 1995 season. It included a 1999 club option. (AP)

No Visitors for Key Game

SOCCER No official trips for sup-porters will be available to away-fans at the European championship qualifiers between Croatia and Yugoslavia this year. Only official guests and media from each country will travel to the games in Belgrade on March 27 and Zagreb on Oct. 10. "We decided to do everything we could to eliminate all tensions off the pitch," Branko Bulatovic, the Yugoslav soccer federation's general secretary, said

WORLD ROUNDUP Beckham Has Edge **Over Old Adversary**

Simeone Frustrated as Manchester Beats Inter

the referee. In the rematch, Simeone felt he was the victim of a miscarriage of

When England played Argentina in the World Cup in St. Etienne last summer. Beckham received a red card

EUROPEAN SOCCER

for kicking Simeone, after the Argentine fell to the ground in apparent agony. England playing with 10 men, lost the match in a penalty shootout.

The two met again Wednesday, when Simeone's club, Inter Milan, visited Beckham's, Manchester United, in the first leg of a Champions League quarterfinal. Before the game, Simeone said be had play-acted the fall in St. Etienne and fooled the referee into giving the said by the said ing Beckham a red card. He said he looked forward to being jeered by the English fans.

In the rematch, with Beckham wide on the right and Simeone in central midfield, their paths rarely crossed, although Beckham did take the ball from Simeone with one crunching tackle early on. Beckham took a measure of revenge by setting up both goals as his team won, 2-0.

Beckham was devastating in the first half. In the seventh minnte, he curled a cross ooto Dwight Yorke's forehead, and the Tohagan striker dived to head the ball into the corner of the goal. A minute before halftime, Beckham again swerved the bail into the goalmouth for Yorke to score with a second header.

Giuseppe Bergomi, Inter's veteran defender, was unhappy: "We had stud-ied videos of Beckham all week and knew what he was capable of, but did nothing to stop him.

In the second half, Simeone himself hammered a beader into the United goal, but Helmut Krug, the referee, ruled that scored with the kick. "The referee made another Inter player had committed a the right call," Peruzzi said.

The last time Diego Simeone and David beck were left complaining about the reference In the

At the end, Beckham and Simeone embraced and exchanged shirts. "Beck-ham's a good lad." Simeone said. "1 thought the fans would boo me a lot more. I was actually quite surprised that there was so little noise for me."

Bayern Munich 2, Kaiserslautern 0 Kaiserslautern, which lost, 4-0, in Munich in the German league this season, dominated early oo. Uwe Rosler headed over from close range and Martin Wag-

ner struck the bar with a free kick.

Bot Bayern took the lead after 30 minutes when Carsten Jancker, the Bayern center forward, deflected the ball to Giovanne Elber while wrestling with a Kaiserslautern defender. Elber lashed the ball into the goal. Four minutes later, Stefan Effenberg broke free to score Bayern's second.

Real Madrid 1, Dynamo Kiev 1 Real Madrid, the defending Champion's League titleholder, wasted a string of chances against the visiting Ukrainians.

Kiev took the lead in the 54th minute when Andrei Sbevchenko, put through by Sergei Rehrov. calmly scored.

Dynamo gave away a series of free kicks around its penalty area, but with Roberto Carlos struggling to find his range, Dynamo was not punished until the 66th minute, when Predrag Mijatovic curled a free kick into the goal. Juventus 2, Otympiakos 1 In Turin, Juventus controlled its match but gave

added for injuries and other delays. Juventus, which has appeared in the last three Champions League finals, took a 2-0 lead on goals by Filippo Inzaghi and Antonio Conte, But its defense left its goalkeeper, Angelo Peruzzi, exposed to a

away a goal in the sixth minute of time

darting run from Alexios Alexandris. Peruzzi tripped his opponent to give away a penalty and Andreas Niniadis



Zaza Dzhanashia left, being greeted by Yuri Drozdov (3) and other teammates after scoring one of his three goals Thursday as Lokomotiv Moscow beat Maccabi Haifa of Israel, 3-0, in a Cup Winners Cup, first-leg quarterfinal.

Connecticut Reaches Big East Semis

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Kevin Freeman scored 22 points, including a tip-in with 1:27 left that gave top-scoded Connecticut the lead for good Thursday, and the Huskies held on for a 57-56 victory over Seton Hall in the quarterfinals of the Big East tournament.

Third-ranked Connecticut (26-2) advanced to the semifinals Friday against the winner of the quarterfinal between fourth-seeded Syracuse and fifth-seeded

Freeman's tip of a 3-point attempt by Richard Hamilton gave the Huskies a 51-50 lead. His dunk after a pass from Khalid El-Amin made it 53-50 with 29 seconds left. After a time-out, Seton Hall forcing the Huskies to make it or break it the rim and fell in for the final margin.

from the free-throw line. El-Amin was fouled with 16 seconds left and made both eods of a 1-and-1 to make it 55-52. Seton Hall scored with

COLLEGE BARKETBALL

three secoods left oo a rebound basket by Reggie Garrett to again get within one. After a time-out by each team, Hamilton was fouled with two seconds left and made both ends of a 1-and-1. seton Hall had a final chance when the Huskies' Rashamel Jones was called for a

foul before the ball was inbounded. Gary Saunders, who led the Pirates with 18 points, made the front end of the 1-and-1 and tried to miss the second for (15-14) scored on a drive by Ty Shine. a chance to score a basket, but the ball hit

adelphia, Mark Karcher hit a career-high six 3-pointers and Pepe Sanchez keyed Temple's defense with eight steals as Temple advanced to the Atlantic-10 Conference tournament semifinals with 64-51 victory over Virginia Tech.

Lamont Bames added 14 points and 13 rebounds, 11 on the offensive end, for the Owls (20-9), who never trailed after building a 19-point halftime lead.

Temple, the top seed in the Atlantic-10 East, advanced to play the winner of the Massachusetts-Xavier quarterfinal

The Owls built a 42-23 halftime lead (behind Karcher's perimeter shooting, capping the haif with a 3-pointer from the right corner as time expired. Karcher did not hit another field goal in the game.

In Formula One, a 2-Team Contest

McLaren and Ferrari Gearing Up for Season Opener in Melbourne

By Brad Spurgeon International Hetald Tribune

battled to the checkered flag las will start as favorites, not least in their

"It will be a McLaren-Ferrari duel again," said Eddie Irvine, the second Ferrari driver, at Ferrari's annual preseason press conference at its recent winter retreat in Italy.

Certainly the sport's winter testing seemed to bear him out. Michael Schumacher, Ferrari's leading driver, and the man who beat him to the driver's title last year, Mika Hakkinen of McLaren, were nearly always faster than any of their other rivals.

Making comparisons from the sport's winter testing is tricky. however, because the teams tested at varying stages of their cars' development. Comparisons were made even more difficult this winter because Ferrari and McLaren seemed to

be avoiding each other. But as the teams worry about each they might be well advised to check their rearview mirrors - others may testing, six of the other nine teams month. gave hints that they were capable of

monoting a challenge.

metamorphosed from the impover- fight with the main pack behind the ished, 30-year-old Tyrrell team into two leading teams." the slick and rich British American ARIS - When the Formula Racing team that likes to call itself 1990s, slipped to a distant third last One season starts in Melbourne "the new kid oo the block." Craig year. It has hired Alex Zanardi, who on Sunday, the two teams that Pollock, Jacques Villeneuve's man-left Formula One in 1994 after scoring

> Thanks largely to British American Tobacco PLC, the team has what is estimated as the third largest annual budget at nearly \$100 million. Viileneuve, the 1997 Formula One champion, and Ricardo Zonta, the 1998 Grand Touring Car world champion, set good times in winter practice for the team, and Adrian Reynard, their designer, has made winning cars in every racing series he has entered. The cars will be closely watched in Melbourne since Reynard's chassis bave also woo their debut races in

every new formula. 'This isn't Reynard, it's BAR." several tracks around Europe and in said Reynard at the presentation of the South Africa under different weather new car in January. "But I've never conditions, at different times, and at beard that setting one's targets too high is a bad thing. That's what we will try and do."

The surprise of the winter testing in Barcelona in February came from another relative newcomer. Prost. The team finished ninth in the constructother at the Melbourne Grand Prix, ors championship in its second full seasoo last year. But oo the last day of testing, the new Prost car, driven by be catching up. Over the course of the Jamo Trulli, set the fastest lap of the

"We have to keep realistic am-bitions for '99." Alain Prost said. His suggest the car still needs develop-whose sponsors will contribute \$6 One enigma is the team that has ambition, he said, is to "be able to meet work.

Williams, the dominant team of only one point in 20 races. He returns as a star, having won the last two CART championships in North

Zanardi's teammate is the "Mr. Brother," Ralf Schumacher. Michael's younger brother joined Williams after two seasons with Jordan. He drove consistently faster than Zanardi throughout most of the testing, but Zanardi's greater experience should help in races.

Jordan, the team that woo its first race at the 1998 Belgian Grand Prix, has improved steadily. This year's internal battle between Damoo Hill and the new driver, Heinz-Harald Frentzen, should belp raise the level of competitioo.

Benetton's cars set fast times through the winter. But the team has a new director, Rocco Benetton, 29, who has oo experience in racing.

Sauber finally has a competitive budget in the paddock.

otor in the 1998 Ferrari engine. Jean
In January, Tom Walkinshaw sold lesi, the team's French driver, set part of the Arrows team to Prince motor in the 1998 Ferrari engine. Jean Alesi, the team's French driver, set promising times in testing.

At Jackie Stewart's team, Robens Barrichello set the third fastest time in Morgan Grenfell Private Equity. Last Barcelona. But problems with the week the new consortium kicked oot oew Ford engine and Johnny Her- Mika Salo, the fast and experienced



Michael Schumacher of the Ferrari team, left, taking a break from training with Nick Orlic of the South Melbourne soccer team.

"Like any oew chassis-engine package at the start of a season," Stewart said, "there are certain issues still to be resolved."

The two teams that seem doomed to bring up the rear are Minardi and Arrows. Minardi has an all-new and fast car - along with the smallest

Malik Ado Ibrahim of Nigeria, and another part to the investment firm bert's crash at 300 kilometers per hour Finnish driver, in favor of the lessmillion to the team's budget.

Olympian Grandstanding

U.S. Committee's Appeal to Washington Is Misguided

By Mike Penner

LOS ANGELES - The dog-and-pony show was beld by the U.S. Olympic Com-President Bill Clinton's desk.

While conceding that USOC oversight regarding the Salt Lake City bid campaign was 'abysmal," Bill Hybl, the USOC President, said Wednesday he had sent a letter to the

VANTAGE POINT

president asking the White House to ride to the rescue, round up the guys in the black hats (i.e., the International Olympic Committee)

and throw them in the hoosegow. Rather dramatically, Hybl said he was calling on the White House to put the IOC under the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, which makes the bribing of foreign government officials a crime.

"In less than 100 days, the Olympic Movement has faced its most serious challenge in the past 100 years," Hybl said, "This challenge has become a global crisis that demands the most aggressive possible action and a commitment to change.

Oce problem: The 1OC is not a foreign state and its members do not represent foreign governments. Placing the IOC under the auspices of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act Sion. would first require amending the law.

Even then, bow would the U.S. government

tried? More than one international treaty would have to be amended - or broken.

Hybl's ploy amounts to little more than archrigrandstanding. That seems to be going around offer.

the USOC these days. In the end, what did the touted USOC-commissioned investigation led by George Mitchell produce, beyond a report of the obvious? Fifty-three pages and two press briefings to say that IOC members mittee in Washington, all the easier for the accept lavish gifts from Olympic bid cities

But Hybl is right when he describes the crisis as global.

On Wednesday, a fax from the Sion. Switzerland, bid committee arrived at the Los Angeles Times. Sion is campaigning to bold the 2006 Winter Olympics - the first cam-paign to be conducted under the anti-corruption restrictions proposed by the IOC executive board in January.

Sion and the others are prohibited from flying in and wooing IOC members, so Sion has adopted a fresh and imaginative new bid strategy: Flying in and wooing the media.

"We are pleased to invite you to come and see our candidature for yourself," said the fax. "We will present our candidature file. show you the competition venues and offer you the opportunity of meeting those in charge of the project, and provide a flavour of the cultural life of the Valais."

The fax notes that "many media will be coming to Switzerland for the IOC's Extraordinary Session to be held on 17th and 18th March in Lausanne" - convenient, that - and lists four time windows surrounding the IOC meeting for two-day media junkets to

Finally, the fax proposes: "The Sion 2006" candidature committee will bear your travel drag IOC members into American courts to be costs together with those for your accommodatioo and meals."

It will be interesting to see how Sion's archrival, Turin, counters this most hospitable

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

EXHIBITION BASEBALL

New York Mets 12, St. John's 3
WEDWESDAY PESCILYS
Arizona 10, U. of Arizona 2 Tampa Bay 5, Miami, Fla. 0 BASKETBALL NBA STANDINGS TASTERN CONFERENCE .533 .462 .308 .250 .231

786 *B*92 *6*47 533 ,438

11/4 11/4 31/4 5

Golden State 6 9 .400 L.A. Olippers 0 13 .000

LA Clopers 0 13 .000 10½

With Determine 10½

Indiana 24 32 27 12—95

£ Rose 6-11 6-7 22, Miller 6-9 6-7 26 W:
Howard 13-24 0-0 25, Shicklond 8-14 2-2 18,
Raboonds: L. 46 (A.Davis 12), W. 45 (Thape 9), Assists: Indiana 26 (M.Jackson 17),
Washington 27 (Shicklond 12).
Chicago 17 18 28 31—86
Philledelphia 25 24 27 26—197

C. Simpidra 7-13 7-1021, Kukoc 6-15 3-6 16;
P. Iverson 10-21 4-9 24, Geiger 7-9 7-7 21,
Raboonais: Chicago 48 (Simpidra 8),
Phillodelphia 25 (Geore 9),
Chariette 2, Phillodelphia 25 (Soree 9),
Chariette 31 18 24 20—93

C. Colemon 11-182-2-24 Phills 5-14 2-2 14-2-18 Priliodelphia SS (Geiger 13). Assists: Chicago 22 (Harper 6). Philadelphia 22 (Snew 8). Charlette 22 (1 19 14—76 Orlande 31 IB 24 20—93 C. Colemon 11-18 2-2 24. Philis 5-14 2-2 14. C. Anderson 8-13 3-4 25. Austin 8-13 4-6 20. Rebeauds: Charlotte 43 (Colemon 10). Criando 50 (Austin 0). Assists: Charlotte 19 (Westey 4). Orlando 26 (Hardoway 9). Golden Stree 16 21 16 25—78 Milweuter 25 19 26 36—186 G.S.: Starks 6-16 2-2 16. Jordoba 9-18 (G.S.: Starks 6-16 2-2 16. Jordoba 9-18 (A. H. H. 17-11 6-7 00. Robinson 5-12 8-8 19. Rebounds: G.S. SS (Dony, Marsholl 10). Milweutere 35 (Hall 10). Assists: G.S. 12 (Coles, Delic 4). Milweutere 25 (Perry 8). Vancouver 24 -14 28, 20—26 Vitot 22 9 29 19—309 V. Milock 7-13 3-4 23. Abdur. Robinson 5-14 6-9 17; U: Russell 6-10 2-2 17, Malore 3-9 10-12 16. Rebounds: Voncouver 38 (Massenburg 6). Urch 53 (Molona 10). Assists: Voncouver 20 (Bibby 6), Urch 31 (Stockton 10). Pineenix 34 21 17 23—95 L.A. Laiers 32 34 34 23—39 P. Robinson 8-13 3-6 20. Geoplicita 7-20 0-0 14. Chopmon 5-16 3-3 14 Lobers: Bryant 11-19 (In-12 32 Orlean In-19 7-17 77. Rebounds: Phoenix 55 (Guglietta 12). Lokers 68 (Rodmon 17). Assists: Phoenis 21 (Didd 11). Lekers 22 (Bryant Februar 5). Perthand 18 22 24 24 25—97 Sorvanenthe 18 22 42 34 5—99 P. Grant 6-13 9-9 20. Sobonis 8-12 1-2 17-5. Webber 7-15 6-8 20. Williamson 7-15 4-6 18. Perthandor 2-9 (Geophic 1-9 46 (Rodmon 7-15 4-6 19. Perthandor 2-9 (Geophic 1-9 46 (Rodmon 7-15 6-6 20. Williamson 7-15 4-6 19. Perthandor 2-9 (Geophic 1-9 46 (Rodmon 7-15 6-6 20. Williamson 7-15 4-6 19. Perthandor 2-9 (Geophic 1-9 46 (Rodmon 7-15 6-6 20. Williamson 7-15 4-6 19. Perthandor 2-9 (Geophic 1-9 46 (Rodmon 7-15 6-6 20. Williamson 7-15 4-6 19. Perthandor 2-9 (Geophic 1-9 4-6 (Rodmon 7-15 6-6 20. Williamson 7-15 4-6 19. Perthandor 2-9 (Geophic 1-9 46 (Rodmon 7-15 6-6 20. Williamson 7-15 6-6 19. Perthandor 2-9 (Geophic 1-9 4-6 (Rodmon 7-15 6-6 20. Williamson 7-15 6-6 19. Perthandor 2-9 (Geophic 1-9 4-6 (Rodmon 7-15 6-6 19. Perthandor 2-9 (Geophic 1-9 4-6 (Rodmon 7-15 6-6 19. Pertha

EUROLEAGUE

U.S. COLLEGE SCORES MEN TOURNAMENTS ATLANTIC 10 CONFERENCE PRST ROUND
Doyton 70, 51. Bonaventure 69, OT
La Salle 81, 51. Joseph's 54
Massachusetts 80, Duquesme 70
Virginia Tech 74, Fordham 63 ntore 69, OT BIG EAST CONFEREN FIRST ROUND Georgefown 68, Providence 66

Georgetown 68, Providence 66
Rutigers 64, Philisburgh 51
Sehan Half 79, Notre Oame 69
Syrocare 96, Bassian Collège 55
Villanova 73, West Virginile 61
CONFERENCIA USA
FIRST ROUND
DEPaul 95, Tulnine 39
N.C. Charlotte 75, Houston 51 FINAL
Keril 49, Missel, Ohio 43
MID-EASTERN ATHLETH
GUARTERPINALE
Florida A&M 80, Coppin St. 69
S. Corolina St. 61, Md. Esstem

MOUTHLAND CONTRIBUTE
FIRST HOUND
Lamor 90, NE Lussians 71
McNeese St. 100, Nicholis 81, 87
southerwise return return of
FIRST return
Alcorn St. 114, Profite View 61
Jackson St. 73, Teags Southern 49
Miss. Valley St. 71, Alabama St. 58
Southern U. 92, Grambling St. 83

WOMEN TOF 2.5 No. 4 Colorado St. (28-7) def. UNLV 71-67.

TOTAL AMERICA EAST COMPERADOE FRIST ROUND
WSON 97, Boshor University 67
fstrg 53, Hartford 52 BIG 12 CONFERENCE

QUARTERPRALS Texas Tech 74, Konsus State 55 Nebraska 40, Texas 55 lowa State 63, Missouri 44 Kansas 59, Oldahama State 53 CONTAL ATHLETIC ASSI PRST ROUND 1 Modison 58, American 36 PATRIOT LEAGUE Holy Cross 72 Novy 58

Southern Methodist 75, Brigham Young 60 New Needoo 74, Texas Christian 62 Nice 74, Uhin 57 Colorado State 71, UNIL V 67 ICEHOCKEY

WESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

NHL STANDINGS HEART DIVISION

W L T Pts GF GA
34 18 8 76 174 130
34 22 5 73 196 181
28 27 12 69 166 137

> Los Arreles 23 34 5 51 141 164
> With Michael A. Results
> Edmenton 2 2 1 1-5
> Boffielo 2 0 1-3
> 1st Period: E-Guerin 25 (Weight) 2 EMurchard 9 (Crieri 3. B-Woolley 6 (Greek,
> C.Brown) 4. B-Pscn 21 (Weolley) 24 Period:
> E-Michael 10 (Bernack) 6. E-Ceerin 26 (Michael 10 (Bernack) 6. E-Ceerin 26 (Michael 10 (Bernack) 6. E-Possmora. B-Roleson.
> Biron. 10—12. Goelles: E-Potsmore. B-Roleson. Biron.
> Biron.
> Beston 1 0 8—1 7 8—2 1 7 8—2 1st Particl: Coroline, Wesley 5 (Gollens, Kopanen) 2, 8-Carler 11 (Belanger, Ferrure) 2d Particl: Coroline, Gelinas 11 (Prinston, Marilli Ja Perriod: None. Shorts on geal. B-7-11-6—24. Caroline: 9-13-3—25, Gordless 8-Delice. Caroline: 10-13-14-7. New Jerson. New Jerson. 1 1 9—2 1st Period: T-Berezin 23 (Valk. Cole) 2d

Period: T-Berezin 24 (Korolev, Berord) (pp).

2. N.J.-Niedermoryer 8 (Elias, Sykora) 4. New Jersey. Corpenier 1 (Stovens) 34 Period: N.J.-Amort 17 (Pandoffe, Sykora), 6. N.J.-Amort 10 (Elias, Stevens) 7. N.J.-Elias 19. (er.). Shots on goal: N.J.-6-12-16-28, T-6-8-11-25. Goalies: N.J.-Brodeur, T-Joseph. Montreal 1 3 8 0.4

Pittistorgh 1 2 1 0.4

1st Period: P-Shotso 30 (Westerlas, Jogn) 2. M-Poutin 8 (Molakhov, Dawe) 2d Per. P-MB-ler 16 (Hrothe, Jogn), 4. P-Barnes 20 (Hotches, Jogn) (pp), 5. M-, Stevenson 6 (Zhotho, Molakhov) 6. M-Matlakhov 12 (Corpon, Kotwo) (pp), 7. M-Corson 11 (Reachi, Weshrich) 3d Period: P-Jogn' 29 (Lang) 071: None, Shots on goal: Ah 17-14-5-1-37, P. 5-5-7-12 Geoffes: M-Hocketh, P-Barrosco, Studra, Colerado. geat M- 17-14-5-1--77, P- 5-5-7-1-12
Geatists: M-Hocketh, P-Barrosso, Skudra,
Chierado 2 3 0-5
1st Perfod: F-Kvasha 11 (Medianty,
Portish) (pp), 2, F-Bore 11 (Hediant) (shi),
2d Perfod: F-Bore 12 (Whitney, Svebiol (pp),
4, F-Bare 13 (Korlow, Mediemaryed) (pp), 5,
F-, Mellenby 15 (Divoruk, Hedican) 6, CForsberg 19 (Sokid) all Perfort, Centileva 22
[Deadmarsh, Forsberg) (pp), 8, C-Forsberg
20 (Doury, Osofrah) 9, C-Deadmarsh 19
(Forsberg, Sokid) (pp), 10, C-, Drany 14
(Podein, Denovan) 11, C-Hejdark 9 (Sokid,
Forsberg) 12, C-Forsberg 21, Sokid an goal:
C-97-18-34, F-11-98-28, Geaffest C-Roy,
Billington, F-Barrios,
Sen Jose
1 1 2-4
Vancauver
1 1 2-4
Vanc

Aschain
151 Period: A-Copier 7 (Sandahora, Mcfinnis) 2d Period: A-Selarine 25 (Green, Solel) (pp.). 3. L.A-Biote 7 (Storage, Robrigila) 2d Period: None. Store on gent; LA: 13-13-8-34. A. 3-4-5-14. Godies:

CRICKET ASSAN TEST CHAMPS

EUROPEAN CUP QUARTERFIKALS, FIRST LEG paid 1, Dynamo Kley 1 stjer United 2, Inter Milan 0 Real Mountal 1, Dynamo Kley 1
Monchester United 2, Inter Milan 0
Boyern Munich 2, Kaiserstautern 0
Juventus 2, Otympiotas Piranus 1 EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP

COPE LIBERTADORES

SOCCER

FERST ROUND Como Porteno, Por. 2 Polene eno 3; Olimpio, Por., Or Conintrions, Broz. O.

Unil Calabica, Chile 1 Sporting Cristal, Peru, 1 STANDINGS: Universitatio, Peru, 3 - points Colo Cale, 2: Sporting Cristal 1; Universidad Catalica 1: ASIAN CUP WINNERS CUP QUANTERNAL SETURN LEG Achimo, Jop., 10. Sorowak, Malaysia, 0 Kashkaa Antiers won 14-2 on aggregat

Rivestins Fuerime Leacus
Sheffled Wednesday I. Wimbledon 2
stransources Man.U. 57 points: Chelsed
Sty Assent Sty Leads 45 Villa 44t Wimbledon
10; West Hom 46: Liverpool 37; Derby 38;
Tojieshon 36; Sheffled Wed. 35... ect.

PEACE CUP ESDAY IN QUATERIALA CITY Guatemaia 2. Pa

nia 2. Estonia (

DESCRIPTION AND PROPERTY.

TRANSTTIONS

AMERICAN LEAGUE HEMA Agreed to ferms with INF Justin Baughman, RHP Jaston Dickson Bret Hemphili. Justin Boughmon, RHP Jostin Dickson and C. Brit Heimphill.

CLEVELAND—Agreed to terrus with C Einar, Diaz, INF Jolbert Cathrear and INF Richle, Sestion on 1-year contracts.

M.Y. YANIGERS—Rememed the controct of C. Jorge Postido. Agreed to terrus with RHP, Luis DeLosSanhos, RHP Mille Jerzembeck.

OF Danzeli McDonoki. RHP Rym Brodley.

OF Richy Ladea, RHP Alike Buddle and SS. D'Angelo Jimenez on 1-year contracts.

TAMPA BAY—Agreed to terrus with RHP Rolando Arrolo, C Mille Diffelios. INF Agreed to terrus with RHP Rolando Arrolo, C Mille Diffelios. INF Agreed to terrus with RHP Rolando Arrolo, C Mille Diffelios. INF Agreed to terrus with RHP Rolando Arrolo, C Mille Diffelios. INF Agreed to terrus with RHP Rolando Arrolo, C Mille Diffelios. INF Adrono Transmit of Pandry Vina and INF Allyoni Calin.

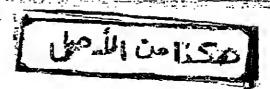
Tolostro—Signed RHP Cris. Carpender and OF Shannon Stewart to 3-year contracts, and 33 Tom Everus. INF Felipe Cassos, RHP Robert Person.

MATIONAL LEAGUE

MASTONAL LEAGUE

BASSERTEALL.

HATTONAL RASKETRALL ASSOCIATION I THAT Fined Southe SuperSonics F-C. Sen Polymics 5,000 for motions on obscomb



Killers Die Ambush, anda Says

SPORTS

Pete Rose Jr. Shows Father And Dodgers Some Pop

The Associated Press Pete Rose Jr. was a hit, Garth Brooks was a miss.

While the New York Mets were beating St. John's University, 12-3, Tuesday in this spring's first exhibition, several other teams were playing intrasquad

With his father sitting in the stands. Rose got a hit in the Los Angeles: Dodgers' game at Vero Beach, Florida. Brooks, bowever, struck out in his only at-bat in the San Diego Padres' game at Peoria, Arizona

After being reminded by Manager Bruce Bochy to put on his batting helmet, the country-music star managed to foul off two pitches before chasing a oeck-high fastball from a conroster righty, Salvador Rodriguez.
"I guess four out of the five pitches I

was proud of," Brooks said. "The last one I wasn't. That's the one I'll remember.

Brooks, who was playing just for fun, did fine in left field, cleanly handling a single by Gary Matthews Jr. in his only chance

Rose Sr., baseball's career hits leader, watched his 29-year-old son swing away

at Dodgertown. 'I'll let you know if be's my son after be hits," Rose said to a fan. "If he gets a lost the game. hit, be's my son. If be doesn't, be's your

Rose Jr. is just hoping for a chance with the Dodgers. "I think I've got what it takes." he said. "I plan on making the team. I'll bust my tail. I'm going to be in L.A. at some time. I'm a guy who's got loss to Colorado on Wednesday oight. some pop. Left-handed pop looks to be a little scarce around here.

Kevin Brown, who signed a \$105 Pavel Bure scored three straight goals million, seven-year cootract with the to help the Panthers take a 5-0 lead. But Kevin Brown, who signed a \$105 Dodgers, pitched two innings in a simulated game. He threw 16 pitches in the first inning and 23 in the second. .

three goals and three assists.

getting cranked up again," Brown said.
"I don't know what happened — I'm getting cranked up again," Brown said.
"I survived, didn't get hit in the face or still trying to figure it out," said Joe

Jason Arnott scored two third-period assists. anything, so there's a moral victory Sakic, who bad three assists for Colorado.

At the end of the session, Brown gave up a few shots that most likely would have been hits in a game, to Jose Viz-the Colorado goalle, Patrick Roy, after caino, Gary Sbeffield and Raul two periods. Craig Billington came on in Moodesi. He ended the session by striking out Eric Karros.

A crowd of 1,431 at Port St. Lucie, Forsberg ignited Colorado's Florida, watched the Mets beat St. comeback with his 19th goal at 18:11 of John's. Matt Franco homered during a the second period. Forsberg scored twice seven-run burst in the third inning and in the third, including an unassisted goal connected for New York

Five Mets pitchers combined on a and a St. John's alumnus, did not pitch. scored.



Kris King of the Maple Leafs, left, flailing away at the Devils' Sheldon Souray despite a slightly impaired field of vision. Both players were assessed five-minute penalties in the fight-filled game won by New Jersey, 5-2.

Avalanche Buries Panthers' 5-0 Lead

With a five-goal lead over the Col-orado Avalanche late in the second perishape. Imagine their surprise when they

ray, said after his team's stunning 7-5

NHL ROUNDUP

"This is the biggest meltdown I've ever seen. Absolute, total embarrassment."

guess it was just meant to be.'

Bure's hat trick and a goal each by Scott Mellanby and Oleg Kvasha chased the third and wound up with the victory

by stopping eight shots. Melvin Mora and Mike Kinkade also with 1:31 left that capped a four-goal connected for New York. ---- outburst in the final five minutes.

Claude Lemieux, Adam Deadmarsh, five-hitter. John Franco, the Mets' closer Chris. Drury and Milan Hejduk also

Ottors 5, Sabres 3 Boris Mironov and before he was taken to the hospital. Bill Guerin each scored twice as Edmonton won at Buffalo, giving Steve od, the Florida Panthers looked in great Passmore his first National Hockey League victory in goal.

"I haven't seen anything like this be-fore," the Panthers' coach, Terry Mur-Boston, snapping the Bruins' five-game scored third-period goals to lead San unbeaten streak and stretching the Hur- Jose to victory in Vancouver. ricanes' bome unbeateo streak to four.

Canadiens 4, Penguins 4 Jaromir Jagr capped a four-point night with a third-period goal as Pittsburgh tied Montreal in a game that eoded the Penguins' ninegame home winning streak and cost them two of their best players.

The Penguins' goalie, Tom Barrasso,

the Avalanche lived up to their nickname by scoring seven straight in the final 22 right hand, and Martin Straka departed because of a bruised shoulder after scor-

goals as New Jersey overcame a twogoal deficit to beat the Leafs.

Scott Niedermayer and Bob Carpenter scored in the final four minutes of the second period to erase Toronto's lead. In the first minute of the third period, Arnott beat a screened Toronto goalie, Curtis Joseph. to put the Devils ahead, 3-

2. Later, a 55-foot blast by Arnott again

eluded Joseph. The game was marked by hard bits and scuffles. The Leafs lost the center Alyn McCanley, who was slammed into the boards by a Devils defenseman; Sbeldon Souray, seven minutes toto the third period. It took 10 minutes to stabilize McCauley and secure him to a stretcher

SO, WHEN HE HAS

TO RUB IT IN

He was diagnosed with a head injury

and doctors said he had full feeling in all his extremities. Sharks 4, Canucks 3 A backup goalie. Hurricanes 2, Bruins 1 Martin Gelinas Steve Shields, made 28 saves, and

Mighty Ducks 2, Kings 1 Guy Hebern

stopped 33 shots and won his fourth straight decisioo, as Anaheim beat visiting Los Angeles, Hebert beat the Kings for the fourth time in as many meetings

Iverson, Despite Flu, Leads Surge by Sixers

They Down Bulls, 102-86, for Sixth Straight

The Associated Press

isn't really in any condition to be on the

With Iverson scoring 24 points despite a bout with the flu, the Philadelphia 76ers beat Chicago, 102-86, on Wed-

NBA ROUNDUP

nesday night. The Sixers have a sixgame winning streak for the first time since 1991 and they clinched a victory in the season series with the Bulls for the first time since the 1990-91 season.

"He looked sick this afternoon," Larry Brown, the Sixers' coach, said of Iverson. "Once he got on the court, he

didn't look sick to me. lverson, averaging 28.8 points, is the main reason the Sixers appear to have turned things around. Matt Geiger helped with 21 points, a season-high 13 rebounds and a career-high 5 steals, but this was Iversoo's show.

lversoo was the focal point on nearly every possession while the game was still close. He was 10 for 21 from the field and added 6 assists and 3 steals.

"Even if you don't recognize it in public, I want people to say — behind closed doors if they have to — 'That's the best player in the NBA,' 'I lverson said,

Bucks 106, Warriors 78 In Milwaukee, Tyrone Hill broke out of his season-long shooting slump and Glenn Robinson con-

tinued to shoot well from the foul line. Robinson, leading the NBA from the line with a .964 percentage, hit all 8 of his free throws and scored 19 points. He has missed just one of 28 free throws this season. Hill, shooting 34 percent from the floor, scored 20 points on 7 of 11 shots.

Pacers 106, Wizards 95 Jalen Rose The Chicago Bulls are in oo condition scored 11 of his 22 points in the final to handle Allen Iverson, even when he quarter, and Washington collapsed in the fourth period as it lost for the fifth time in six games and for the fifth straight time

> Washington made just 6 of 22 shots in the final period.

Lakers 101. Suns 95 In Los Angeles, Kobe Bryant scored 23 of his 32 points in the second half, Dennis Rodman had 17 rebounds to remain unbeaten with the Lakers and Shaquille O'Neal put in 27 points.

The Lakers, winning their fifth in a row and beating Phoeoix for the second time io three nights, reeled off a 12-0 spurt in the fourth quarter.

Trail Blazers 97, Kings 93 Brian Grant had 6 of his 20 points in overtime and added 18 rebounds as Portland won in Sacramenio.

Arvydas Sabonis had 17 poiots and 13 rebouods and Isaiah Rider had 16 points for the Blazers. The Kings, who lost for the sixth time in the last eight games. were led by Chris Webber's 20 points and 14 rebounds.

Magic 93, Hornets 76 Nick Anderson scored 25 points and Orlando used a 20-6 run early in the third quarter to pull away from visiting Charlotte.

Andersoo was 8 for 13 from the field, including 6 for 10 on 3-point attempts. Isaac Austin added a season-high 20

points and 8 rebounds. Jazz 109, Grizzlies 86 Utah won its 19th straight regular-season game at home, including seven this season, as Karl Malooe had 16 points and 10 re-

The Jazz are the only Western Conference team the Grizzlies have never

NCAA Weighing Final Picks for Tournament

began Thursday with nine people being where they would be seeded. sequestered on their own floor of a

Kansas City hotel. ation men's basketball committee, their conferences. which is charged with determining the

at the University of Kentucky and

DOING? HOME

the myriad possibilities regarding would not automatically eliminate a NEW YORK - The meetings which teams were to be selected and Newton, in his seveoth year oo the

committee, said Wednesday that there They were oot members of a jury was oo clear formula to determine the discussing a trial, but members of the National Collegiate Athletic Associ-'The first time I was scared to death

field of 64 in the NCAA tournament and in awe of the process," Newton that begins next week. C.M. Newton, the athletic director more serious you take the charge and the University of Kentucky and the charge is to select the right field."

chairman of the committee, began discussing administrative issues early in cords against top-25 opponents and the day with the other committee members. Later, the group was to discuss

RIGHT. I'VE GOT TO STUDY FOR AN EXAM TOMORROW, SO I HART IT OWNET TONIGHT school from coosideration for a bid.

Newton said the committee would meet for about 14 hours per day until the 64-team field is revealed Sunday night. A Milestone for Kent State

In 47 years as a member of the Mid-American Conference, Kent State bad never won a division, conference or tournament title, The Associated Press reported from Toledo, Ohio. But on Wednesday night, Coach Gary Waters and his players celebrated a 49-43 vic-

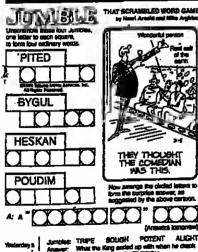
> NOTES! (RUN!!

DENNIS THE MENACE



. 2

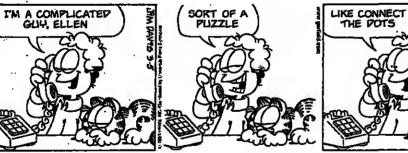
'NAW ... TELLIN' THE TRUTH IS GOOD, JOEY. I JUST OVERORD IT AUTILE."



PEANUTS



GARFIELD



BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



TODAY? AND RICE ASPARAGUS



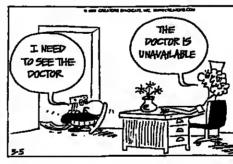


PLEASE! WITH

SUGAR ON IT!

WIZARD of ID DOCTOR IS I NEED TO SEE THE DOCTOR

CALVIN AND HOBBES







OH, YOU BET, ROZ. HOBBES AND I WON'T MAKE A PEEP.



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POSTCARD

A Nobel Journalist

By Larry Rohter New York Times Service

So it came as something of a shock to Colombians when the novelist Gabriel Garcia Marquez recently bought a money-magnine here and magazine's new editor in magazine's new editor in having to celebrate his 72d birthday. of its reporting staff.

But to Garcia Marquez, the decision makes perfect sense. For years, he said, be had dreamed of using his Nobel Prize money to organize a newspaper to be called El Otro, or The Other, so when a group of young editors and reporters came to him with a proposal to huy and overhaul the news weekly Cambio, he welcomed it as a chance to return to his first love.

"Journalism is the only lished his literary reputation.

"But nobody would em-ploy me" after he won his Nobel in 1982, he added jok-

Cambio and the magazine's helping enhance the chief stockbolder, roles he is magazine's reputation and not accustomed to playing.

'Here,' he said, handing a business card to an American risen sharply since the new visitor, an amused grin on his management took over. In the

hio range as far afield as edit- advertising quintupled.

ing copy and reviewing photographs. When peace talks BOGOTA — He has leftist rebels began in early January, he even went to the Prize, says there are still books site of the negotiations as part he needs to write and is about of the magazine's reporting team, sending dispatches that

> great advantages of having the Spanish-speaking world's most eminent author on staff is that "many doors open to him, and he knows how to ask that they be opened."

That celebrity status has resulted in exclusive interviews with heads of state and husiness leaders, hut can create difficulties in the field.

"I want to feel the atmo-"Journalism is the only sphere, to be a reporter, hut I trade that I like, and I have have a problem," Garcia Maralways regarded myself as a quez said, referring to the journalist," said Garcia Mar- commotion caused when he quez, who earned a living as a appeared at the start of the newspaper and news-agency reporter before writing "One Hundred Years of Solitude." appeared at the start of the peace talks. "My presence causes other reporters to treat me not as a colleague, but as the 1967 novel that estab- news. So I have asked my fellow journalists to respect my right to exercise our craft."

But Cambio also provides a vehicle for Garcia Marquez's ingly, "because it was too ruminations about current expensive. So now I pay so that I can be published." events and the international scene. Several of his essays have already been syndicated is president of the seven- to publications throughout member board of directors of Latin America and Europe,

improving its bottom line. Cambio's circulation has face. "I've never had one of first four weeks of the year, these before."

first four weeks of the year, newsstand sales doubled to By choice, though, his more than 12,000, editors said, week-to-week duties at Cam- circulation rose to 45,000, and

The Sultry Eartha Kitt: Mellower, but Still Proud

By Dinitia Smith

NEW YORK — She slithers across the stage at the Café Carlyle, catlike. 72 years old, with the muscles of an adolescent boy - Eartha Kitt. whom Orson Welles called "the most exciting woman in the world" and the CIA reportedly called "a sadisoc sex nymphomaniac" after she stood up at a White House luncheon and criticized

the war in Vietnam.

Her tight velvet dress is slit to the thigh, fixed with a glittering brooch, as she sings her own rendition of "I'm Still Here": "I lived through Shirley Temple. Now I'm here. I remember Lyndon Johnson. Gee, that was fun ... She purrs, growls, does a belly dance to "Uska Dara," pours champagne down a waiter's throat, delivering a patter of double-entendres as she goes.

Kirt has been a fixture on the music scene since the early 1950s, known for her sultry voice, her persona as a gold digger who turns men into helpless little boys with her sexual power. The New York Times critic Stephen Holden called Kitt the original 'material

She has performed on Broadway and in Las Vegas and played Catwoman in the "Baiman" television series. She has appeared in films ranging from "New Faces." based on the Broadway revue that made her a prime. star, and "St. Louis Blues" to, more re-cently, "Boomerang," with Eddie Murphy, and "Harriet the Spy," from the popular children's book.

During the late '60s and early '70s, her career went into a decline as music tastes changed, and because, she says, of her opposition to the war in Vietnam.

But now she is back in full force, appearing at the Carlyle till March 13 and as a voice in New York City taxicahs admonishing passengers to buckle their seat belts.

Sometimes in the past, with the smoldering anger of her performance, her voice straining in the back of her throat, Kitt has degenerated into self-parody, "If you lonk back," said her daughter, Kin Shapiro, her voice "almost sounded like a caricature. Now I think it's very real. It represents

Indeed, there are many who think that Kitt mellowed, become softer around the edges. rather like vintage wine. In an age of mass entertainment on huge screens and in giant that is aimed at preventing osteoporosis, and going to be rejected again." Indeed, rejection that uses the principles of Radu, her trainer. is a constant refrain in her conversation.



At 72. Eartha Kitt has returned in full force to the New York cabaret scene.

stadiums, people are drawn to her caharet act for her ability to create an infimacy with her audience. It is an act, Holden said, "worthy of comparison with Marlene Dietrich in her

A few days after the Carlyle performance, you would not know it was Eartha Kitt in the botel's restaurant, dressed in black sweatshirt and sunglasses, and without makeup and wig. But even offstage, she preserves the shock, conducting berself with hauteur, referring to herself sometimes in the third

"There is beluga always in the fridge, champagne," Kitt said, "even though I don't have a man." But she would like a man, she said, "just as somebody who would escort me around town."

True to her Catwoman image. Kitt says she sleeps on a bed covered with lion skins. She would like to fill the room with them. "When I get out of bed I am usually

nude," Kitt said. "I look at myself every morning to see if there are hulges, so you don't let it go past, say, five pounds." The solution is exercise. She can lift 50-pound to make an exercise video for older women

She has also learned to preserve her voice, "throw" it from the larynx, as she puts it. She is an opera lover, she said, and draws inspiratioo from Maria Callas. Kitt is also quite a reader, she said, having read through the Book of Knowledge and "Goethe, Marlowe, Shakespeare.'

"Plato was a great influence on my mind because he teaches you to think," Kitt said, with a haughty gaze. There is an anger in her presence, as well as her performance, a calculated tension.

"Whatever man's down front is hugely intimidated," said Daryl Waters, her longtime accompanist and music director. "Now and then she gets someone who decides to get up and dance with her, or catch her because they think she's going to fall. She always has a line or a look ready. Usually it's Where's your father?'

The other night at the Carlyle, Kitt said, she was doing her belly dance when suddenly a woman in the audieoce offered her hushand for the night. "I don't think you can afford me," Kitt responded coolly.

Still, despite her intimidating stage preshas finally come into her own. The voice has (22-kilogram) weights, she said, and wants ence, Kitt said she was "scared to death." "Every time I walk out there I think I'm

She bas laid out the lineameous of her life in three autobiographies. The most recent, "I'm Still Here: Confessions of a Sex Kitten," in 1989, sometimes reads like Dickens: ten, "in 1989, sometimes reads like Dickens: an illegitimate child, an unknown father — a white man, she believes, who may have been the son of the owner of the South Carolina plantation where her family lived.

Kitt said she was rejected by her darkerskinned family and given the name "yellagal." Her mother ahandoned her because her

new stepfather said her skin was too light. The family that took her in abused her, she said, and she went to work in the cotton fields. When she was about g, an aunt sent for her to live in Harlem. The aunt told her she was her real mother, but treated ber unfairly. too, Kitt said.

Her looks often worked against her, Kitt said. In 1958, when she starred in "Anna Lucasta" with Sammy Davis Jr., "2,500 cinemas would not take this film because they thought I wasn't black enough to be making love to a black man on the screen," she said. Kitt has been married once, to a man

named Bill McDonald, and they had one child before their divorce. Kitt has two grandchildren, Jason, g, and Rachel, 3.
In 1968, Kitt was invited to the White House hy Lady Bird Johnson. "You send the best of this country off to be shot and

maimed," Kitt said to the first lady. "No wonder the kids rebel and take pot. The singer's outspokenness nearly ended her career in the United States, she said. Kitt said she learned from a reporter that the Central Intelligence Agency had drawn up a damaging report on her. Contracts were can-

celed. She went abroad, working mostly in Her reputation was revived somewhat in the mid-1970s after President Jimmy Carter invited her to a gathering at the White House,

and she appeared in a concert at Carnegie Hall. Then, in 1978, she won a Tony nom-ination for her role in "Timhuktu!" More recently, in 1996, her first American

recording in nearly 20 years, "Back in the Business," won a Grammy nomination. Looking to the future, Kitt said she wanted

to do more concerts and legitimate theater.
"I'm tired of traveling," she said.

Maybe she should pair up with one of the new female rappers, someone suggested, to have more presence with younger audiences. Kitt looked down her nose. "I've been doing rap since the beginning of time," she said. And you wouldn't want to contradict her.



The film star Danny Glover at a drinking-water project in Burkina Faso, where he was attending the Pan-African Film and Television Festival.

JUDGE has approved a £550,000 A (\$890,000) payment to the former Oasis drummer Tony McCarroll to sertle a lawsuit he filed against the band after he was fired. McCarroll, 27, was fired in 1996 after a fight with the lead singer, Liam Gallagher, in a Paris bar. Oasis members also said that McCarroll, who was replaced hy Alan White, took no interest in improving his "poor" drumming. McCarroll sued the five-member band for being "unlawfully expelled from the partnership." and sought 20 percent of Oasis's annual earnings, which are estimated at £18 million. The settlement, reached minutes after the case began Tuesday in

A Princeton University music professor says his hearing was damaged by

London's High Court, was made public

an ear-splitting performance hy the group Smashing Pumpkins, even though he was wearing earplugs, according to his lawyer. Peter Jeffrey, 45, is suing the members of the alternative

rock hand and the city of New Haven, Gregorian chant, attended the show for Connecticut, where the concert took place in January 1997. Jeffrey "has chronic tinninus," his lawyer said, re-

ferring to ringing in the ears, "and also suffers from sleep deprivation." Jeffrey, who is a music professor specializing in

Broadway's Titanic' to Close This Month

PEOPLE

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The producers of the musical "Tranic" bave announced that they will close the \$10 millioo production, one of the most expensive in Broadway history, on March 28.

Michael David, one of the lead producers, would not say what the show's exact loss was, but he said it had earned back more than balf of its initial investment. After its final performance, "Titanic" will have played 804

The show opened in April 1997 amid a spate of reports of technical problems

with the mechanized set. The reviews were mixed to poor. The musical seemed to gain strength after winning five Tony Awards in June 1997, including best musical, and hy the fall of that year, "Titanic" was the top-grossing show on Broadway. Its fortunes were also huoyed by a renewed interest in the disaster spurred by the blockbuster film.

But in recent months, the show's steam appeared to be running out. It has been steadily losing money since early January.

dictator has made a splash at Africa's oldest film festival. "Mohutu: King of Zaire," made hy Thierry Michel, a Belgian journalist, received a standing ovation at its first showing at the Pan-African Film and Television Festival in Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina Paso. The documentary follows Mohutu Sese Seko, the former dictator of Zaire, oow renamed the Democratic Republic of the Congo, from the early 1960s through his 32 years in power. The film was not competing for the 30year-old festival's main prize, which will be awarded Saturday.

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The Japanese justice minister was criticized in Parliament on Wednesday for allowing Arnold Schwarzenegger into the country without a passport. Shozaburo Nakamura gave the actor. permission to enter through an airport in Osaka last October, although he arrived in his private plane without a passport. Schwarzenegger later submitted a report to the Justice Ministry saying that his passport had been stolen.



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